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[Note to consumers: Moscow TASS in English was observed for the first time on 8 January to be using the Pinyin system of romanization of PRC names. The system was introduced by the People's Republic of China on 1 January 1979.]

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NY TIMES 'DELIBERATELY DISTORTED' REPORT ON SALT

LD081253Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 79 p 5 LD

[Unattributed article: "Truth Must Be Restored"]

[Text] Commenting on the results of the recent Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks in Geneva, some U.S. press organs in obvious discord with official public assessments create a deliberately distorted picture.

Thus, for example, the New York TIMES asserts that the difficulties over some unsettled questions are because the Soviet side at the very end of the talks suddenly toughened its position, putting forth at the last moment new proposals and raising some old questions believed to have been long resolved. But how about arguments and proofs? Who needs them! This is how the paper apparently reasons.

With reference to the opinion of some experts, the paper with a wise mien indulges in allegations that the Russians are seeking a pretext for "delaying the conclusion of an agreement" and are resorting to bargaining to achieve unilateral concessions from the United States!

Of course, one could just ignore these exercises by the paper, but the matters involved are too serious, so the truth must be restored. And the truth of the matter is that the picture painted by the New York TIMES would correspond to reality only if the places of the Soviet Union and the United States in this diagram were reversed.

VISHNEVSKIY ATTACKS U.S. OPPONENTS OF SALT TREATY

LD081225Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 79 p 5 LD

[Vishnevskiy commentary]

[Text] Among the new year wishes expressed by the leaders of many countries one thing frequently coincided: the desire to see soon the successful completion of the Soviet-American talks on strategic offensive arms limitation (SALT-II). Grounds for such hopes exist. The latest round of these talks at the foreign ministerial level resulted in agreement on a number of major issues. Resolve was expressed to finalize the work on preparing the agreement.

The USSR and the United States are now closer than ever before to an agreement. And this is evidenced, in particular, by a statement by President J. Carter, who has expressed hope for the conclusion of a SALT-II agreement.

The closer is the end of the effort, however, the stiffer becomes the resistance of the opponents of detente. The military-industrial complex is actively mobilizing motley militarist groups to carry out subversive activities against an agreement which has not yet been signed. When hawk screams are heard from the so-called "Committee on the Present Danger" and similar organizations it is no surprise. But it is quite another thing when the SALT agreement is attacked by congressmen who are responsible to their constituents.

Charles Wilson, member of the House of Representatives, for instance, affirms that the agreement being prepared allegedly does not correspond to the national interests of the United States. No arguments are adduced, only rhetoric.

A new year propaganda pop-gun was prepared by the special group of the House Armed Services Committee. It published a report asserting brazenly that the SALT-II agreement may assure strategic superiority for the Soviet Union.

Of course, there is no lack in the United States of sober-minded political figures who point out that a mutually acceptable agreement would correspond to the principle of equal security of the sides and to the basic interests of peace. An overwhelming majority of Americans, according to opinion polls, firmly support SALT-II.

Irresponsible attacks by some responsible persons run counter to aspirations of peace-loving people. At present as never before, it is necessary to heed the voice of reason and not reckless rhetorics.

HEADS OF U.S., USSR SALT DELEGATIONS MEET IN GENEVA

LD081220Y Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, January 8, TASS--Heads of the USSR and U.S. delegations at the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of strategic offensive arms have met here today.

PRAVDA'S VISHNEVSKIY REVIEWS 1978 INTERNATIONAL SCENE

LD051507Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Article by Sergey Vishnevskiy: "Landmarks of 1978"]

[Text] At midnight the hands on the Kremlin's Spasskiy clocktower will come together and our immense country will enter the new year. The new year period is a traditional time for thinking about the past and the future, about accomplishments and plans. Time, as the ancient Greek Pericles said, is the wisest of all counselors. And the past year--although in its own way difficult and contradictory--was by and large glorious and noteworthy and filled with major events.

Vitality and Dynamism

The third year of the 10th 5-Year Plan bestowed on us considerable successes in implementing the tasks set by the 25th CPSU Congress. The country's economic potential increased. The CPSU Central Committee July and November plenums were very important milestones. The working people of the Soviet land will assiduously fulfill in the new year the big tasks set in their decisions. The vast, as yet unutilized economic growth reserves lie ahead in all areas of communist building.

The past year has confirmed that the socialist community is the world's most dynamic economic region. The CEMA countries produce twice as many industrial goods as the West European Common Market states. This is a pretty good result with which to greet CEMA's 30th anniversary.

The creative spirit of Marxism-Leninism prevents us from resting on our laurels. If you leaf through the fraternal countries' party and government documents you realize that their primary purpose is to eliminate existing difficulties and shortcomings. We and our friends still have many unsolved problems--in the majority of CEMA countries the extensive sources of expanded reproduction are diminishing, the influx of manpower is falling (consequences of the last war), the fuel and energy base is inadequate and so forth. The fraternal parties' collective intellect is focused on solving these problems. In the joint creative quest effective solutions are being found in deepening socialist economic integration.

The 32d CEMA session adopted long-term targeted cooperation programs--on fuel, energy and raw materials, agriculture, the food industry and machinebuilding. The fraternal peoples have pooled their efforts to construct the gigantic "Soyuz" gas pipeline and the extra-high-voltage USSR-Hungary power transmission line. The potential of fraternal cooperation is unfolding in all spheres of life.

The socialist community's cohesion is an irritant to imperialism. Recently our enemies have been stepping up their attempts to drive a wedge between the fraternal countries and to squeeze world socialism's positions. The U.S. National Security Council has worked out a detailed plan for the "differentiated treatment" of socialist countries. Operating in unison, consistently and purposefully, the fraternal countries are successfully repelling the antisocialist forces' onslaughts.

The strengthening of socialism's positions and the fraternal countries' unity, friendship and interaction has always been of central concern to the ruling parties. The Crimean meetings between Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the leaders of the fraternal parties and countries gave new impetus to the deepening of cooperation. [paragraph continues]

Determination to strengthen friendship and cohesion was confirmed by the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee conference in Moscow in November.

Despite the complexity and multifaceted nature of the picture of the world it is perfectly clear that the positions, influence and magnetism of real socialism are stronger today than yesterday. The international prestige of the Soviet state's Leninist foreign policy has increased even more. Together with the other socialist community countries the Soviet state has a firm hold on the initiative in the international arena and is actively continuing the peace offensive.

Vietnam is a graphic example of the strength of socialist internationalism. It is worth noting that in a difficult year of economic blockade by U.S. imperialism and armed provocations by the PRC the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was granted CEMA membership. The Soviet-Vietnamese Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation signed in November is of historic significance.

A Vicious Circle

Twelve months ago the captains of capitalism solemnly promised to cure the Western economy which had not yet recovered from the 1974-1975 crisis. There was a great deal of administrative enthusiasm: an endless sequence of conferences, gatherings and summit meetings. "Dramatic" measures were announced to eliminate inflation, the currency crisis and so forth. A year has passed, and what have we? The same old assortment of private enterprise society ailments. In fact many socioeconomic disorders have gotten worse. More than 17 million people are unemployed--not a happy new year for them. There is galloping inflation: In 1978 it increased by approximately 6 percent (even more in the United States). Capitalism's currency system has been ailing throughout the year. The news that the "dollar is falling" has ceased to be news; it is taken for granted.

On the eve of the new year the capitalist economy had yet another "surprise." OPEC decided to raise the price of oil by an average of 14.5 percent in the near future. The "surprise" was not exactly unexpected as it was the consequence of the crisis in the capitalist currency system. The OPEC countries were forced to raise oil prices because of the continuous fall in the U.S. dollar, which is the basic unit for oil sales, and also because of increasing inflation in the West. OPEC's retaliatory measure is like a boomerang striking the capitalist economy. It will lead to the "further destabilization of the Western economy," the French paper LE MATIN warns. Bourgeois figures complain that they are getting caught up in a vicious circle. But is this not a normal state for private enterprise?

The natural consequences is political and social instability in the majority of Western countries. Transatlantic political scientists are perplexed by the steady decline in the number of people who vote in elections. At the November midterm elections in the United States only 37.9 per cent of the electorate turned out to vote--the smallest number since the war. Experts conclude that the reason for this is "the decline of political and social institutions."

A polarization process is taking place in France, Italy, the FRG and other Western countries: Shifts to the left are occurring, but, at the same time, rightwing forces are stepping up their activity.

Throughout the year the bastions of capitalism have been shaken by fierce strike battles between labor and capital. There can be no class peace in a society of exploitation and oppression.

A Dangerous Course

We know from history that the exploiter classes have tried repeatedly to find a way out of domestic political disorders via the "road" of international adventures. And today, in the imperialist camp, there are those who would like to shore up the decrepit system by exacerbating the international situation. Their plans are multifaceted: to artificially stimulate the economy by injecting military appropriations into it; to suppress the class struggle; to endeavor to iron out interimperialist contradictions. The initiators of these plans are imperialism's military-industrial complexes. They are bringing more and more pressure to bear on the Western states' leading circles, pushing them onto the slippery path of the "position of strength" policy. In a number of cases the militarists have managed to make their mark in foreign policy decisions.

The beginning of 1978 was notable for an attempted offensive by the cold war champions. I witnessed several frontal attacks by detente opponents. At the Belgrade meeting of representatives of 35 countries--participants in the European Conference of Security and Cooperation--which took place between October 1977 and March 1978 NATO diplomats tried to legitimize, under the false flag of "defense of human rights," interference in the socialist countries' internal affairs. The operation was a fiasco.

A gambling term--the "Chinese card"--has cropped up in the diplomatic lexicon. The Peking leaders, drunk with great-power chauvinism and hegemonism, have aligned themselves with the aggressive circles of NATO and Japan. Beneath the flag of normalizing PRC relations with Japan and the United States some people dream of throwing together a sinister alliance against the socialist states. It appears to the NATOites that they are playing the "Chinese card" successfully. But far-sighted people ask the question: Is it not Peking that is playing the "American," "Japanese" and "NATO" cards for its own great-power purposes? A most fitting question.

Flagrant attacks on the socialist countries continued for many months. Influential circles in the United States deliberately provoked the Soviet Union by ostentatiously curtailing business, scientific and technical and other ties.

None of this brought the "anti-detente" champions either laurels or political dividends. By the end of the year they had to quiet down.

There was a chill at Washington's Kennedy Center at the opening of the NATO Council May session--not so much from the air-conditioning as from the icy blasts of the cold war. Under pressure from the United States the session participants adopted a long-term program for increasing military budgets and building up arms and armed forces. It was not enough for the NATO strategists that $1.3 trillion had been spent on military preparations over the decade prior to 1978. According to expert estimates, they intend to sacrifice a further $1 trillion or thereabouts to the militarist Moloch in 1978-1983.

There is an approximate balance of forces between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Why then are the Atlantic planners vigorously inflating military budgets and building up arsenals of weapons of death? Obviously they are reluctant to resign themselves to the prevailing balance of forces and entertain the hope of putting on a spurt in the arms race and attaining superiority over the socialist states.

These ambitions are senseless and futile. Under conditions of a new arms race acceleration the Warsaw Pact states would under no circumstances tolerate a violation of the fundamental principle of the sides' equal security that would weaken their defense potential. However, the NATO course is undoubtedly fraught with the deterioration of the international situation and great dangers for mankind.

Curb the Arms Race

The continuation and intensification of the arms race is the chief threat to universal peace and to the security of the world's peoples. And there is no international political task more important than halting the dangerous process of material preparation for war.

The intellect and conscience of mankind cannot come to terms with the fact that vast amounts of money ($400 billion) are annually tossed into the bottomless barrel of military expenditure, the fact that in peacetime more than 25 million people are wearing military uniforms and an even greater number are engaged in weapons production.

It is natural that the world's first socialist power, whose love of peace stems from the very essence of its social system, should have put forward the most integral and realistic program aimed at halting the arms race. In 1978 this program was enriched with new businesslike proposals and became even broader and more integrated.

In the spring Comrade L.I. Brezhnev presented a detailed set of proposals for the total ceasing of further quantitative and qualitative growth in arms and armed forces of states possessing large military potentials. Soon this initiative, along with other USSR proposals, was actively discussed at the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament. Many ideas put forward by the Soviet leader became organic parts of the final document of this important forum which expressed the peoples' will for disarmament.

If you think about the Soviet program to halt the arms race you realize that maximum good will and a fundamental desire to seek mutually acceptable accords on the basis of the principle of equal security are integral traits. There is no type of arms, above all weapons of mass destruction, which the Soviet Union would not be prepared to limit, to prohibit on a reciprocal basis by agreement with other states, and then to remove from their arsenals.

Yet another important feature of the Soviet program is its flexible realistic approach. The USSR wants the solution of vitally important problems--discontinuation of all types of nuclear weapon production, gradual reduction of stockpiles leading to their total elimination, prohibition forever of the use of nuclear weapons and renunciation by all states of the use of force in relations with one another and so forth--to be placed on a practical footing.

The Soviet proposals formed the heart of the Warsaw Pact states' Moscow declaration which set the very important task of insuring an immediate fundamental breakthrough at talks on halting the arms race and on effecting disarmament.

Problems of arms limitation are on the agenda at a whole series of bilateral and multilateral talks. In June this year the socialist states presented to the Vienna talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe a valuable initiative offering a way out of the impasse. For over 6 months the Western side has been delaying its reply but there must be a reply to reach an understanding.

Very great significance is attached to the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. For many years the United States has been delaying the reaching of an accord by arbitrarily "linking" it to other international problems, in particular, attempting to obtain unilateral advantages. However, by the end of the year commonsense seemingly began to show through on the Potomac. At a recent meeting in Geneva between A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance the sides either reached agreement or came closer together on a number of basic questions on which there had been no previous agreement. Both sides expressed determination to conclude an agreement on the remaining questions. The peace-loving public hopes that a final accord will be reached in the coming year on the very urgent problem.

As the old year dies we are acutely aware of the passage of time and of how precious it is. It must not be wasted when there is a need for immediate and vitally important solutions of burning problems of war and peace.

The Changing Face of the Planet

If you look at the political map of the world on the eve of the new year you get a clear picture of the many changes that have taken place at various longitudes and latitudes over the past 12 months. Fortunately for the people, the course of the main events in the world is determined neither by the decisions of NATO sessions, nor by U.S. Presidential Assistant Z. Brzezinski's "concept of confrontation," nor by the wall posters hanging in the center of Peking.

The generator of historical processes is the change in the balance of forces in favor of peace and socialism. The sphere of imperialism's domination is diminishing and many things are now simply beyond it. U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT published an article headed "America: A Diminishing Force?" The United States, the reactionary weekly laments, is no longer the Titan which once "towered above international economics and politics." Yes, the working people, the peoples are becoming increasingly the rulers of the world's destiny.

And however desperately the champions of the past try to turn back the clock of history it is just as impossible as preventing the onset of the new year.

Certain zealous Atlanticists called 1978 the "year of NATO." But despite their activity the year passed beneath the sign of expanding detente. The Belgrade meeting confirmed the determination of the peoples of our continent to continue along the path initiated in Helsinki and to implement fully the provisions of the Final Act. The materialization of detente continued. Interstate ties were enriched.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's visit to the FRG was one of the year's big events. The joint declaration on promoting the cause of detente signed in Bonn contributed to the further easing of tension. The agreement on development and deepening of long-term cooperation between the USSR and the FRG in the economic and industrial sphere which entered into force the other day was a major contribution to the enrichment of the two states' business ties.

Nor are the imperialist recipes working out in the developing countries. American diplomacy's difficulties in the Near East, where the situation remains explosive, are a fresh example of this. The much vaunted anti-Arab compact at Camp David has not yet led to the final setting up of a "peace" deal on American-Israeli terms. The struggling Arab peoples' resolute rebuff is preventing this.

At the beginning of 1978 the imperialist fist was raised against Ethiopia--the object of Somali aggression. True to its internationalist beliefs, the Soviet Union, together with Cuba, went to the aid of the victim. By spring the occupiers, supported by the imperialists, had been driven out of Ethiopia. One of the year's important events was the November signing of the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and socialist Ethiopia.

The Western strategists gave a hostile reception to the democratic revolution in Afghanistan. Despite the threats and the pressure the people of the young republic embarked on building a new life. The Moscow Treaty on Friendship, Neighborliness and Cooperation was an indubitable help to the democratic system in this country.

The citadels of racism in southern Africa are feeling the weight of increasing onslaughts by freedom-fighters. However hard the NATO-backed Pretoria and Salisbury regimes try to prevent the final liberation of the black continent the flame of the Africans' just struggle burns more and more brightly.

Other regions have been encompassed by the anti-imperialist movement in 1978: a national uprising against the dictatorship of the pro-American henchman Somoza in Nicaragua. There are turbulent times in Iran. The Washington politicians would perhaps like to use the traditional "gunboat diplomacy" as well as methods of political interference to preserve U.S. positions. However, the possibilities of direct intervention by imperialism are now considerably restricted.

The experience of the past year is a substantial incentive to new efforts in the great battle for revolutionary renewal, for peace, freedom and the peoples' security. Communism and peace are an unfading beacon which will shine for mankind in 1979 and in years to come.

ZA RUBEZHOM VIEWS PROGRESS, OPPONENTS OF DETENTE, MEDIA ROLE

LD081121Y Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 1 Signed to Press 28 Dec 78 pp 2-3 LD

[Editorial: "Victorious March of the Future"]

[Excerpts] The socialist countries, actively supported by peace-loving forces, are struggling tirelessly and consistently to concretize detente. They are seeking to insure that Western statesman and politicians not only extol detente but intensify it by practical steps and measures. Statements favoring detente are frequently accompanied by decisions and actions aimed against the essence and spirit of detente which undermine its foundations. The Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee, which made such a substantial contribution to the elaboration of the fundamental provisions of the Final Act adopted by the all-European conference, made a historically important appeal at the end of November 1978 to all states and peoples setting forth an extensive, specific and substantiated program of practical and feasible measures and actions leading to the elimination of the danger of war, the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe and the safeguarding of the security of all countries irrespective of their social system, economic development level, geographical position and size of population or territory. Businesslike discussion of this program, its adoption by all interested states and its implementation would create reliable preconditions insuring, as the declaration adopted by the Warsaw Pact Political Committee's Moscow conference states, that "mankind moves into the 21st century under conditions of lasting peace and broad international cooperation."

Dangerous Resistance

Although this notable and inspiring declaration has not only been made public but also distributed to the governments of all countries, they have not rushed to respond to this urgent appeal. The capitalist press, frequently boasting to unsophisticated readers about its "objectivity" and its eagerness to "provide information about everything important and essential," has either kept totally quiet about the Warsaw Pact states' appeal or provided brief, indistinct, mumbling reports of it. It displayed particular zeal in leaving the population of its countries ignorant of the socialist countries' peacemaking program based on curbing the race involving all types of arms--conventional and nonconventional, new and extra-new, which bring mankind only death and destruction.

The capitalist governments opposed disarmament in the past year just as obstinately and persistently as in all previous years. The West's largest military powers are resorting to all kinds of subterfuges to prevent the convening of a world disarmament conference. In Vienna, where the question of the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe is being discussed, the West European and U.S. participants continued to engage in deliberate delaying tactics. Back in May 1978 they received the information they had sought from the socialist countries, asserting that without this information it was impossible to conduct talks on reducing armed forces and armaments. But instead of a businesslike discussion of their socialist partners' proposals, the Western countries' representatives have mounted a phony propaganda campaign, accusing the socialist countries of deception. Some Western statesmen have joined in this campaign, reiterating the lies thought up by their propagandists. Even some bourgeois press organs have been obliged to point out that the pretext for dragging out the Vienna talks was invented by the U.S. generals for the blatantly provocative purpose of delaying the Vienna talks and complicating relations between the West European and East European countries.

The growing resistance to the attempts to halt and limit the arms race and achieve a reduction in armaments and then disarmament is headed by the U.S. military-industrial complex that is increasingly resolutely and boldly imposing its will on Washington. While some people are talking noisily about the importance of disarmament, others are trying to impose on the Americans a historically unprecedented arms program. The forthcoming conclusion of the Soviet-U.S. strategic arms limitation agreement is presented to Americans as a sort of license for the unrestricted development of a race involving all other arms spheres. The production of the neutron bomb, deferred under pressure from the broad public, is being compensated by the massive production of its components. Other types of arms, more destructive and terrible than the hydrogen bomb, are being created, tested and put into production. The Pentagon's military budget for 1979 breaks all records.

The hullabaloo around arms production has gripped virtually all developed capitalist countries. Combining the desire for profit with reactionary policy, a number of West European countries, acting on Washington's instructions, are deliberately arming reactionary regimes in Africa, Asia and Latin America and antipopular forces which are offering armed opposition to governments carrying out urgent socioeconomic transformations. Some countries, primarily Britain, have set about arming China, whose leaders have proclaimed anti-Sovietism as the basis of their foreign and domestic policy. The Peking clique's pathological anti-Sovietism has met with not only response and sympathy but also resolute support in these countries.

Urgent Intervention

One of the most interesting phenomena of the past year was the international public's growing understanding of the dangerous role played by the bourgeois mass information media operating to the benefit of aggressive reactionary circles and to the detriment of the interests of the states and peoples. Some time ago a broad and authoritative conference representing journalists from the whole of Latin America particularly noted in a special decision that the "information imperialism" of the largest capitalist powers and particularly the United States is just as dangerous to the Latin American countries as economic, political and military imperialism. At their forum in Delhi the representatives of the nonalined countries pointed out that the mass information media in the hands of the major capitalist powers serve the consolidation of neocolonialism's positions. They deliberately create a false notion of what is happening in the nonalined countries, set some states against others and in Europe and America sow doubts and distrust with respect to the leaders, governments and public forces of Asia, Africa and Latin America, distorting their views, intentions and plans.

The European peace-loving forces have frequently noted that until very recently the bourgeois mass information media have waged and continue to wage their own cold war. Indeed, for a number of years the major West European and U.S. capitalist newspapers tried to discredit the all-European conference and some even condemned the heads of their states and governments for signing the Final Act. The bourgeois press organs refused to publish it despite the commitment by all those taking part in the conference and then, taking advantage of their readers' ignorance, began to discredit and distort the document, deliberately keeping quiet about some clauses, overemphasizing and inflating others, and even compiling new ones. Designed to help the improvement of the peoples' mutual understanding and rapprochement, the mass information media, in the hands of a narrow little group of very rich and reactionary people, have used the latest tremendous technical achievements and journalists' talents to stoke hostility toward the socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union. With every passing day and month the bourgeois newspapers have deliberately distorted the socialist countries reality, for instance by presenting a tiny little group of so-called dissidents as expressing the feelings of the Soviet people who have expelled them from their midst for their antisocial or criminal behavior. The extensive campaign to exaggerate the "Soviet threat" and fuel anti-Soviet hysteria, organized in advance and guided from a single center, is increasingly becoming a campaign to prepare the population psychologically, which could push some adventurist to unleash war when he or the circles inspiring him find it necessary. This campaign is all the more malicious in that it is aimed and impelled, it has been officially announced in Bonn, by the U.S. commanders of the NATO troops and their European minions.

Taking into account the legitimate anxiety of the peace-loving public with respect to the behavior of the mass information media hostile to the letter and spirit of the Final Act, farsighted statesmen and politicians are beginning to understand the need to take steps restricting the opportunity for individuals or groups to poison the international atmosphere, set one people against another and aggravate relations between states. [paragraph continues]

The decisions of the recent UNESCO conference banning the fueling of hostility and hatred and the propaganda of war, fascism and racism, only drew the general outlines. There is an urgent need to adopt coordinated international measures depriving malevolent forces of the opportunity to fuel hostility against neighboring countries.

DEVELOPING NATIONS CONCERNED AT WESTERN NEWS AGENCIES' INFLUENCE

LD051155Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[M. Istomin commentary: "A Firm Stance"]

[Text] A Latin American conference on mass information problems has taken place in the Panamanian capital. Its participants came out against imperialism's continuing intrusion into the spiritual life of the continent's countries.

What practical form does this intrusion take? The U.S. UPI agency at present accounts for up to 40 percent of the news published in Latin America's newspapers. AP--another major agency--accounts for 31 percent.

Commenting on these facts, Elie Abel, dean of the faculty of journalism at the U.S. Columbia University, admits that "the peoples of the developing countries are having, willy-nilly, to see the world, including their own region, through the eyes of others. A large proportion of the information they obtain is exaggerated, distorted, or prepared from the racial viewpoint of the 'white man.'" The culture of the developing countries and their system of ideals are being stifled by alien concepts. Western purveyors of information operating in accordance with the traditional "news formula" lost sight of the states' achievements in economic and cultural development. According to this formula, only news dealing with crimes, illegal narcotics trafficking and coups d'etat is considered to be "of value".

At the same time, "Latin America's struggle for independence", Juan (Somaviya), director of the Latin American Institute of International Studies in Mexico City, observes, "does not come within the compass of this formula and is assessed as a threat to the capitalist powers. The present structure of information is a system which has almost no relation to real events in the life of Latin America."

The UN General Assembly's special Political Committee has come out in favor of the need to eliminate the dominance of the Western news agencies in the developing countries.

COMMENTATOR ASSESSES UN INABILITY TO ACT IN MIDEAST, AFRICA

LD062244Y Moscow in English to Africa 2000 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Vasiliy Stepanov commentary]

[Text] Our next program is "a Radio Moscow observer answers your questions". Today observer Vasiliy Stepanov answers the question from a Nigerian listener, Mr (Senisu) of Ibadan. The question is this: Why can't the United Nations end apartheid in South Africa and settle the Middle East conflict?

This is what the observer writes:

What prevents the elimination of apartheid in South Africa and a Middle East settlement is the position of imperialist powers, headed by the United States, because they are interested in the continued existence of the racist regime in South Africa and in the adventuristic policy of occupation followed by Israel. The Soviet Union and other socialist and developing countries have made repeated concrete proposals in the United Nations and at other international forums to end the racist regime and reach a settlement in the Middle East. Each time these proposals were boycotted by imperialist powers.

Quite recently two resolutions were put to vote in the United Nations. One denounced the aid some Western countries give to the South African racists, and the other condemned the separate deal between Egypt and Israel, which runs contrary to the interests of the Arab peoples and worsens the situation in the Middle East. In both cases the United States, Britain, France, Federal Germany and Israel voted against.

The issue of economic sanctions against South Africa has been raised in the United Nations on numerous occasions. The socialist and developing countries, including African nations, voted for such sanctions, but the imperialist states voted against. And when the United Nations did succeed in passing such resolutions, the imperialist powers sabotaged them. This happened, for example, with a resolution calling on all member nations of this organization to stop all arms supplies to South Africa.

For the imperialist countries, both South Africa and Israel are a traditional field of activity by capitalist monopolies. For instance, they own one-third of cultivated land in Israel. An American or a Briton, who finds himself in South Africa, feels to be at home. There are signs and advertisements everywhere of American and British companies. The vast natural resources of South Africa and the cheap, actually slave-like labor of the indigenous Africans bring fabulous profits to Western monopolies of several billion dollars a year. Every dollar they invest in the South African economy is paid back in 2 or 3 years, and then starts yielding net profits to the foreign investors. Yet the reason for the Western support of the South African racists is not only the economic interests. The imperialist powers regard South Africa as a military ally that occupies an important strategic position in the Atlantic and Indian oceans, at the crossroads of essential shipping lanes. For them South Africa is also an ally in the struggle against the national liberation movements in the whole of southern Africa, a tool for putting pressure on the progressive regimes in the region.

Israel is also carrying out police functions in the Eastern Mediterranean area. There were reports in the American press recently that, after concluding the separate deal with Egypt, Israel will place its ports at the disposal of the American Navy for a certain compensation. The adventuristic policy of the ruling Egyptian circles has helped the imperialists to split the united anti-imperialist front of the Arab peoples and to create a tense situation in that oil-rich region. That situation helps the imperialist powers to interfere in the internal affairs of the Arab peoples, to impose their policy on them. South Africa and Israel seem to be the two hands of imperialism with which it is trying to hold the African and Arab peoples by the neck. For this reason the Western powers interfere in every way with the United Nations' efforts to end apartheid in South Africa and reach a settlement in the Middle East.

ANNIVERSARY OF CONVENTION AGAINST RACISM NOT MARKED BY U.S.

LD041019Y Moscow TASS in English 0908 GMT 4 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 4, TASS--Correspondent Oleg Polyakovskiy reports:

Racist practices, mass unemployment and increased discrimination against black Americans and other national minorities remain characteristic features of life in the USA as the world marks the tenth anniversary of the entry into force (January 4, 1969) of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. This major international document, signed by 100 states, has not yet been ratified by the United States.

Although Washington poses as a champion of "human rights" in other countries, the United States is one of the few U.N. members which stubbornly refuse for a long time to assume concrete treaty commitments to ensure basic human rights and liberties. It is for almost a quarter century now that the Convention on the Prevention of the Crime of Genocide and Punishment for It, to which more than 80 countries have acceded, still remains unratified by the U.S. Congress. The same is true of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which took effect in 1976. The United States also refused to support the U.N.-proclaimed decade for action against racialism and racial discrimination (1973-1983).

Discrimination is practised in all spheres of life in American society. This conclusion is fully corroborated by official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Department of Labour. Unemployment rates among adult black Americans and Spanish-speaking Americans are at least twice as high as among whites, while unemployment among Indians has reached 75-80 per cent. The average income of a Negro or a Spanish-speaking family makes up only about 60 percent of the income of a white family. Infant mortality among Negroes is twice as high as among whites.

If a Negro, an Indian, a Puerto Rican or an American of Mexican extraction joins in the struggle against racism and racial discrimination he faces imprisonment. Racists in judge's gowns ruthlessly deal with civil rights workers. As an illustration of this suffice it to recall the fates of the "Wilmington 10," "the Puerto Rican 5," "the Charlotte 3," Assata Shakur, Delbert Tibbs, J. Merrit and other political prisoners in the USA.

MORE REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF SENATORS TO MOSCOW

LD081222Y Moscow TASS in English 1212 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] Leningrad, January 8, TASS--The group of U.S. senators led by the Senate Republican MinorityLeader, Senator Howard Baker laid a wreath of red carnations to the monument of mother homeland at the Piskarev memorial cemetery. The guests visited today the memorial place during their sightseeing tour of the city.

In the afternoon, the group of U.S. senators left for Moscow. The guests were seen off at the airport byMayor of Leningrad Lev Zyakov, deputies of the Supreme Soviets of the USSR and the Russian Federation.

U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union Malcolm Toon left together with the senators.

Meet With Parliamentary Group

LD082103Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1750 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 8 January, TASS--Today a meeting took place between the USSR Parliamentary Group and a group of U.S. senators headed by Howard Baker. During the conversation a number of matters pertaining to Soviet-American relations were discussed, particularly those connected with the conclusion of an agreement on limiting strategic offensive weapons. "We express satisfaction at your group's visit to the Soviet Union," said Aleksey Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group and chairman of the Soviet of the Union, one of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet. "Your visit will be useful, as it will provide an opportunity for you to become better acquainted with our country, the Soviet people, their hopes and aspirations, and above all their aspiration for peace on earth and neighborly relations between all countries."

Senator Howard Baker noted the need to insure better mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and the USSR. "I view future relations between our countries with optimism," he said. "The meetings and talks to take place in Moscow will doubtlessly be useful."

Taking part in the meeting were Deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet Georgiy Arbatov, Georgiy Zhukov, Leonid Zamyatin, Zinaida Kruglova, Aleksandr Chakovskiy and others.

Received by Kuznetsov

LD091102Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 9 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today received in the Kremlin the group of U.S. senators headed by Senator Baker which is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Parliamentary Group. During the conversation, Comrade Kuznetsov talked about the peaceful, constructive work of the Soviet people, their achievements in developing the country's economy and social progress, and the USSR Supreme Soviet's activity in accordance with the provisions of the new Soviet Constitution.

The Soviet people need lasting peace to accomplish the tasks of the construction of communism, he noted. In this connection, Kuznetsov stressed the necessity of the struggle to stop the arms race and for disarmament, and the consistency of the Soviet Union's efforts directed toward the development of constructive and stable relations with the United States, the good of the peoples of both countries and peace throughout the world.

The American senators voiced their support for better mutual understanding between the United States and the Soviet Union and of the development of good relations between both countries, which meets the interests of strengthening international peace. During the conversation the important contribution to the improvement of relations between the two countries which the highest legislative organs of the Soviet Union and the United States are called upon to play was noted.

Taking part in the conversation were, on the Soviet side:

Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group and chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Vysotin, chief of the International Relations Department of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and other officials. On the American side: Senators Towers, Garn, Danforth, Hayakawa, Wallop, and also Toon, the U.S. ambassador to the USSR.

U.S. SCIENTIST DISMISSES CLAIMS OF SOVIET FUEL SHORTAGE

LD082137Y Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 8, TASS--The Soviet Union, which is pursuing a purposeful and planned policy in the development of its power sources, is not threatened by an energy crisis, the danger of which confronts the Western states. This was stated by the noted American geologist and expert in power resources Arthur Meyerhoff. In a talk with a TASS correspondent he qualified as absolutely groundless the claims of some "experts" that the USSR was allegedly confronted with the fuel shortage problem. The Soviet Union possesses the world's greatest power potential. Arthur Meyerhoff said that he became convinced of this after his repeated trips to our country.

The American scientist spoke highly of the Soviet Government's efforts to increase the output of the petroleum and gas industry. Analysis of the Soviet Union's five-year economic development plans shows that the USSR adheres steadfastly and consistently to the course of providing the latest technology to these sectors of industry, he stated.

U.S. NUCLEAR SUBMARINES LEAVE SPAIN UNDER PRESSURE

LD081016Y Moscow TASS in English 0936 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Madrid, January 8, TASS--According to Madrid newspapers EL PAIS and INFORMACIONES, withdrawal has been started of U.S. submarines with nuclear weapons on board stationed in the U.S. base in Rota (Cadiz). The country's public has waged for many years a vigorous struggle against the presence of the U.S. nuclear weapons in the country's territory, assessing it as an infringement upon the country's sovereignty and a real threat to Spain's security.

But the former Francoist regime led by the Pentagon agreed to the deployment of the weapons in Spain, which ran counter to Spain's national interests. The authorities were forced under public pressure, to start talks with the U.S. side on this issue. The Spanish-American treaty signed in Madrid in January 1976 provides in particular for withdrawal starting from January this year of submarines equipped with Polaris and Poseidon missiles with nuclear warheads. A total of eleven of such submarines as well as three supporting ships and a floating dock are to be withdrawn from the base in Rota in the course of six months.

ECONOMIC REPORT FORECASTS RECESSION IN AMERICA

LD081126Y Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 8, TASS--The U.S. economy is on the threshold of a new recession. This is the conclusion of prominent American economists, compilers of a review of the state of the American economy and its prospects for 1979, that has been published here. According to the review, another one million people will join the army of the unemployed in the United States. These will mainly be black people and other national minorities of the country. The compilers of the review predict a drop in the living standards of the Americans this year. Thus, 45 per cent of the budget of an average American family will be "swallowed" by the exorbitantly high cost of such services as rent, tuition and medical assistance. Almost half of the remaining part of the budget the Americans will pay for food products the price of which will grow by almost 10 per cent. Prices of electricity and gas will grow 12 per cent, gasoline--10 per cent. Economists also point out that the growth of the national product of the United States will retard from 3.9 per cent in 1978 to approximately 2.4 per cent in the current year.

'MONOPOLY RULE' OF U.S. OIL CORPORATIONS CAUSING CONCERN

LD080920Y Moscow TASS in English 0850 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Washington, January 8, TASS--TASS correspondent Viktoriya Sorokina reports: The sober-minded congressmen feel an ever growing concern over the undivided control exercised by American oil corporations over the energy resources of the United States, which enables them to inflate prices of oil products and fuel at their discretion to the detriment of the national economy.

20 large oil companies control more than 95 per cent of the crude oil pumped by oil pipelines, says a petition, sent by Senator Edward Kennedy to the Federal Trade Commission. The Americans have to pay higher prices for oil products only because the oil corporations use their monopoly rule in the energy market in their mercenary interests, the senator stresses, urging the use of anti-trust legislation against them. But till now, however, the oil corporations, which have a powerful lobby in the Congress, managed without difficulty to ward off the "sword" of the law. The investigation into financial machinations of monopolies has been dragging on for a number of years already. In spring last year, for instance, the same Federal Trade Commission on the basis of numerous irrefutable data was compelled to admit that in the near future all energy market of the United States will find itself in the hands of a number of mighty oil corporations. In accordance with the investigation, carried out by the commission, already now four giant oil companies possess the lion's share of the country's oil resources. They brought up huge reserves of coal, worth more than 100,000 million dollars. Huge reserves of uranium ore are also in their hands.

PRC REPORTEDLY TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

LD082044Y Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Beijing [Peking]: "Road of Treachery"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 8, TASS--TASS commentator Sergey Stokilitskiy reports:

According to Howard Squadron, president of the American Jewish Congress, who recently returned from his trip to Beijing, China is preparing to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. Howard Squadron also said he received the information of the coming turn in the Chinese Middle East policy from no other than Deputy Premier of China's State Council Geng Biao [Keng Piao].

Beijing's plans would be more accurately described not as "a turn" in its present policy, but a logical continuation of the Maoist double-dealing in the Arab east. Beijing leaders are coming out for a general and just settlement of the Middle East problem, but only in words. And what are its deeds? The closer the final of the separate Egyptian-Israeli dealing, bargained behind the back of the Arab nations and at their expense, the more active becomes the support by Maoists of the capitulatory policy by Anwar as-Sadat.

"China," wrote the hilarious Cairo AL-AKHBAR on the eve of the visit to the Egyptian capital by Ulanfu, deputy chairman of the Permanent Committee of the China Assembly of Peoples' Representatives and member of the Politbureau of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, "was one of the first to support the peaceful initiative by President as-Sadat and to state its full support of the Egyptian-Israeli-American agreement at Camp David." But it was not only a moral support. On coming to the Egyptian capital, the same Ulanfu said that Beijing is ready to render military assistance to Egypt.

At the same time, writes the West German STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, China stopped its arms supplies to Palestinians. China's present policy, writes the Palestinian SAWI FALESTIN, is one of the factors facilitating the achievement of the main aims of Arab principle enemies--Zionism and U.S. imperialism.

Against this background, the news of the plans to establish diplomatic relations between Beijing's Maoists and Tel Aviv aggressors is a manifestation of Beijing's new betrayal of the interests of the Arab nations fighting for their liberation.

CHINA INTENDS USING WEST TO MODERNIZE MILITARY

LD090145Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Nikolay Shishlin commentary]

[Text] Assessing the results of last year and the prospects for international development, it is necessary to take the Chinese factor fully into account. The subject of China is now very popular. Numberous commentaries are devoted to it--it is being discussed all the time in the world press. Special attention is naturally given to the normalization of diplomatic links between the two countries.

It was, of course, abnormal that for almost 3 decades the United States refused to recognize China, and, more than that, made every effort to deny the gains of the Chinese revolution.

The situation changed at the end of the 1960's and the beginning of the 1970's, when the well-known Shanghai Communique was issued by the United States and China. After that, step by step, contacts between the two countries have been multiplying and spheres of cooperation between them have also been gradually expanding.

The very fact of normalization of U.S.-Chinese relations is described in official Washington as a step that can have a beneficial effect on peace, as a contribution to the prosperity of both countries and of the whole of mankind.

But there are also other comments in the United States on this event. For example, Richard Holbrooke, assistant secretary of state for East Asia and the Pacific, said in a recent interview that about 25 percent of the Soviet military might is concentrated along the Chinese border. He said this was a very significant fact for NATO and for the West in general. Apparently, Washington is making plans to use Peking's anti-Sovietism for NATO's purposes.

As for the Chinese leaders, they are making numerous claims about the general importance of the normalization of Chinese-U.S. relations for promoting world peace. In doing so they find it necessary to stress the well-known anti-Soviet direction of Beijing's [Peking's] foreign policy. For example, on New Year's Day Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping] made more allegations that the threat to peace comes from the north. Without doubt, the rampant anti-Sovietism of the Chinese leaders accelerated the movement toward restoration of diplomatic relations between the United States and China.

Inside China complex and meaningful phenomena are taking place. Many former slogans have been forgotten, to say the least. The activities of the Chinese leaders on the domestic scene are noted by a rather noticeable pragmatic trend, and for exactly this reason many disruptive Maoist experiments are being abandoned--experiments that have greatly affected the basic interests of the Chinese people.

A struggle between various political factions also continues in China. One may expect that besides issues that have already become a subject for critical consideration, there will appear in the future problems of as great a magnitude that will await their sensible coverage and approach. This point should be taken into account in assessing the present state of affairs, or, in other words, it's necessary to look into the future while speaking about the present. Thus far it may be said that even the loftiest words about allegiance to peace have no weight if they are not backed with deeds. But looking at the actions of Beijing it is easy to see that China would like to use its improved relations with the West to get access to the NATO arsenals, to get modern technology, to modernize military production. And, of course, China intends to use its military potential in its own way. That's strikingly indicated by the strong pressure China is already putting on a whole area of Southeast Asia.

The history of international relations contains a great many examples of the failure of immature political combinations when the immediate interest obscured other perspectives. If the normalization of U.S.-Chinese relations leads to China becoming involved in active and constructive efforts for the sake of disarmament, to overcome the existing conflicts, such a development can only be welcomed.

But so far there is very little ground to expect this. And if the new phase in U.S.-Chinese relations is based on anti-Sovietism, the cause of relaxation of tension stands to lose and the interests of both the American and the Chinese people will be affected.

RESHUFFLE REFLECTS CONTINUING POWER STRUGGLE AT TOP OF CCP

LD090931Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[M. Georgiyev article in response to reader's query: "Reshuffles in Peking"]

[Text] "I read a report in PRAVDA about a CCP Central Committee plenum which spoke of new members of the CCP Central Committee and Politburo. Who are they and what has prompted this reshuffle? E. Samokhvalov, Lipetskaya Oblast."

First there is Chen Yun, who became not only a Central Committee Politburo member but also deputy chairman of the CCP Central Committee. He is one of the party's oldest figures. At different times he has been a Central Committee and Politburo member, and a vice-chairman of the CCP Central Committee responsible to the State Council, where he was vice premier for financial and economic questions. At the beginning of 1967 Red Guard newspapers called Chen Yun "a reactionary representative of economism," and "an old right opportunist, always opposing Chairman Mao." He was later stripped of all his posts and expelled from the Politburo.

Also elected to the Politburo was Teng Ying-chao, the widow of Chou En-lai, State Council premier. The other two new Politburo member are Hu Yao-pang, who prior to the Cultural Revolution was first secretary of the Chinese Communist Youth League Central Committee and a member of the CCP Central Committee, and Wang Chen, State Council vice premier.

The following became members of the present Central Committee--Huang Ko-cheng, former chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army; Hu Chiao-mu, former vice general secretary of the CCP Central Committee (at that time under Teng Hsiao-ping); Hsi Chung-hsun, author of the book "Thirty Years of the CCP" and former State Council vice premier; and a number of other figures well-known prior to the Cultural Revolution.

In an attempt to absolve Mao Tse-tung of responsibility for the terror and repression, his heirs once again shift all the blame for this onto the "gang of four" and Lin Piao, who are known to have been Mao's "closest comrades-in-arms."

The reshuffle carried out by the CCP Central Committee plenum is as a whole indicative of the unabating power struggle among Peking's ruling clique.

SOVIET-POLISH COMMISSION HOLDS 27-29 DECEMBER SESSION

LD051601Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--The 21st session of the Soviet-Polish Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation was held in Moscow on 27-29 December.

Together with current questions of economic cooperation between the two countries, the session discussed the specific problems involved in elaborating the basic directions in production specialization and cooperation between the major industrial sectors of the USSR and the Polish People's Republic for the long term. The commission examined in detail the progress and results of the work of Soviet and Polish sector ministries to develop economic, scientific and technical cooperation in the period 1981-1985 in heavy, transport, chemical, and petroleum machine building, the automobile and shipbuilding industries, and a number of other sectors.

Measures were approved aimed at increasing the efficiency of cooperation and improving ministries' and departments' activity to coordinate work in this sphere.

Agreements were signed on cooperation in the aviation and food industries.

The Soviet delegation was headed by K.F. Katushev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the Polish delegation by T. Wrzaszczyk, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers.

The work of the commission was conducted in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and complete mutual understanding.

The Polish delegation returned home on 29 December.

ADM GORSHKOV ATTENDS MOSCOW YUGOSLAV ARMY DAY RECEPTION

LD051321Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Dec 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent report: "Yugoslav Embassy Reception"]

[Text] On 21 December Col B. Laban, military, air and naval attache at the Yugoslav Embassy in the Soviet Union, held a reception to mark Yugoslav People's Army Day. The reception was attended by Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, USSR deputy defense ministers, generals, admirals and officers of the USSR Armed Forces and veterans of the Great Patriotic War who participated in the battles to liberate Yugoslavia. I. Dukic, Yugoslav charge d'affaires in the Soviet Union, was present at the reception.

The guests included military, naval and air attaches from embassies of foreign states in Moscow.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETS FRG COMMUNISTS ON ANNIVERSARY

LD292226Y Moscow TASS in English 2152 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

["To the Board of the German Communist Party"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, December 30, TASS--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union sent a message of greetings to the communists of the Federal Republic of Germany on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the German Communist Party (GCP).

Your party, says the message of greetings from the CPSU CC to the Board of the GCP, has won justified prestige in the international communist movement by its actions aimed at strengthening the internationalist cohesion of the fraternal parties, by its loyalty to the great doctrine of Karl Marx, Rederich Engels and Vladimir Lenin.

Soviet communists responded with great interest to the decisions of the recent GCP Congress at Mannheim, which adopted the party's programme--an important document which, on the basis of the principles of scientific socialism, defines the long-range tasks of the communists, and answers vital questions agitating the working people of the FRG.

Coming out vigorously for implementing the goals outlined by the Berlin Conference of the European communist and workers' parties, for ending the mounting arms race, against the plans to manufacture and deploy in Europe the neutron weapon, the communists of the FRG are contributing to the solution of the key task facing all progressive forces--strengthening peace on earth and the security of the peoples.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union highly values the friendly relations that have evolved between our parties, and is firmly convinced that they will keep developing and strengthening, the message of greetings underlines.

Greetings to W. Berlin Communists

LD292238Y Moscow TASS in English 2200 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 30, TASS--The Communist Party of the Soviet Union pledges fraternal solidarity with the selfless work of the Socialist Unity Party [SUP] of West Berlin which carries on the best revolutionary traditions of the German working-class movement and the Communist Party of Germany, says a message of greetings from the CPSU CC to the Board of the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Communist Party of Germany.

The West Berlin communists' loyalty to Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the struggle for peace and consolidating international security, consistent actions for the steady fulfillment of the quadripartite agreement on West Berlin and for ensuring the city's normal development, their efforts directed at strengthening the militant solidarity of the ranks of the international communist movement, have won the SUP justified recognition far beyond the boundaries of your city, the CPSU CC underlines.

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON SIGNIFICANCE OF USSR-FRG COOPERATION PACT

LD081251Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[May Podklyuchnikov commentary: "A Strengthening Foundation"]

[Text] In the last days of the current year an important event in Soviet-West German relations took place. There was an exchange of notes in Moscow on the enactment of the agreement to develop and deepen long-term cooperation between the USSR and the FRG in the sphere of the economy and industry, the document signed in May this year during the visit to the FRG of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The agreement that has now entered into force is of great political significance. It is bound to promote all-round expansion of mutually beneficial cooperation in trade, industry and technology, and this is the necessary component in the relations between the two states. It is indicative that this cooperation is set for a long term, until the beginning of the next century.

The enactment of such an agreement is a new essential step forward on the way taken more that 8 years ago by the signing of the Moscow treaty. The peaceful cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany is acquiring a solid material foundation. What is needed now is to transform the provisions of the agreement into concrete deeds.

The further development of neighborly relations and mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and the FRG demonstrates that the detente policy has put down deep and strong roots. The conclusion of a long-term agreement between the two countries reflects their growing mutal trust and their determination to increase the stability and scope of their relations.

Soviet-West German relations is only one of the examples showing how the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe are being given concrete content. The outgoing year witnessed many other positive deeds. The Soviet Union's links with France and Italy are being successfully developed. Strong neighborly relations exist between the USSR and Finland. Soviet-Austrian cooperation has good prospects. The material tissue of detente is being strengthened, step by step.

The opponents of peaceful coexistence will not be able to frustrate detente, since as shown by reality it meets the fundamental interests of the peoples. Every step in deepening and expanding detente is a step towards consolidation of peace and security.

Tikhonov Interview

LD300018Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1559 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 29 December, TASS--The rapid and successful development of economic relations between the USSR and the FRG which we have observed over the last 7 or 8 years is directly linked to the fundamental positive changes in the political relations between the two countries which came about as a result of the conclusion of the Moscow agreement of 12 August 1970, Nikolay Tikhonov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Soviet Side of the USSR FRG Economic and Scientific-Technological Cooperation Commission, underlined in an interview with IZVESTIYA.

His interview is published in connection with the exchange of notes on the implementation of the Soviet-West German agreement on the development and deepening of long-term cooperation in the sphere of the economy and industry. Nikolay Tikhonov noted that the firm economic links which are taking shape are exerting a favorable influence on the political relations between our countries.

For 7 years the FRG has been a most important trading partner of the Soviet Union among the capitalist states, Tikhonov continued. The agreement on the development and deepening of long-term cooperation between the USSR and the FRG in the sphere of the economy and industry signed during the historic visit to the FRG in May 1978 by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Tikhonov noted, bears witness to the continuing improvement and upward trend in Soviet-West German relations and reflects increased trust and mutual understanding between our countries.

This agreement convincingly demonstrates the possibilities enshrined in the policy of peaceful coexistence and shows the scale and prospects which can follow from cooperation between states with different sociopolitical systems. Together with the other agreements achieved in Bonn it constitutes an important contribution to the advancement of the cause of detente, neighborliness and the strengthening of peace.

The economic links between the USSR and FRG, Tikhonov went on, have transcended the framework of the traditional forms of trade and risen to a qualitatively new level characterized by the increasing development of new forms of cooperation.

In conclusion, Nikolay Tikhonov expressed the firm conviction that the agreement which has come into force will further the stable, mutually advantageous growth of economic links between the USSR and the FRG and respond to the interests of both countries' peoples and to the strengthening of the material foundation of the policy of detente in Europe and the entire world.

SCALE, IMPLICATIONS OF NATO FALL EXERCISES EXAMINED

LD051057Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Dec 78 p 3 LD

[Lt Col M. Vasilchenko article: "According to the NATO Headquarters Scenario"]

[Text] For nearly 3 months the territories of West European NATO countries and the waters of the Atlantic which wash their shores were the arena of the Autumn Forge-78 maneuvers, the biggest military maneuvers in the entire history of the North Atlantic bloc.

The combining of annual NATO exercises and maneuvers into a single series with a common plan, operational and strategic background and orientation began in 1975 on the initiative of American General Haig, supreme commander of the NATO Allied Armed Forces. This general won unfortunate fame as one of the authors of the myth of the "Soviet military threat" and a zealous supporter of an unlimited increase in the West's military might.

In accordance with the scenario elaborated in Atlanticist headquarters the preparation, launching and progress of first conventional, then nuclear war on the European Continent are rehearsed in stages during the Autumn Forge exercises. Calling the enemy in this war sometimes the "Reds," sometimes the "Orange" forces and sometimes the "Easterners," the authors of such scenarios do not try very hard to conceal the fact that they have in mind the Soviet Union and other socialist community countries. The Western press has also written unambiguously about this.

At the beginning of the maneuvers the entire NATO war machine is set in motion from northern Norway to the Eastern Mediterranean. The level of combat readiness of armed forces is improved, reinforcements are sent in from the United States and Britain, strike groupings of the allied naval forces are deployed. NATO headquarters takes on full leadership of the bloc countries' troops and naval forces.

The dangerous war game organized by the Atlanticists rapidly gathers speed. Arrows are placed on headquarters maps to indicate planned strikes, tank and motorized infantry columns advance toward deployment lines, armadas of combat aircraft take off, detachments of ships put to sea, and exploding missiles, bombs and shells rumble on firing ranges.

Information on the progress of "hostilities" flows into the supreme commander's headquarters through all channels of communication. General Haig finally makes the decision intended to turn the course and outcome of the "war" to NATO's advantage: The potential of conventional means of destruction is exhausted--the right moment has come for the mass use of nuclear weapons.

NATO generals and officers again lean over the maps. Special templates to determine damage from nuclear strikes are placed over cities, industrial sites and administrative centers. The calculation is made in millions of human lives. European peoples' material and spiritual resources perish on a colossal scale....

In elaborating such scenarios, the Atlanticist strategists refuse to see the changes introduced into Europe's political life by the fresh wind of detente. In the desire to please their omnipotent master--the military-industrial complex--and to justify militarist preparations in bloc countries they are gambling, as before, on the notorious "Soviet threat." NATO strategists have an inexhaustible supply of variations on this theme: Sometimes they frighten their countries' peoples with the USSR's "increasing chemical warfare potential," sometimes with the qualitative and quantitative superiority of Soviet tanks, sometimes with the increased offensive potential of Soviet troops, and so on and so forth. It is true that the same conclusion is always drawn--not to stint money for military preparations and to stage militarist shows more extensively and frequently.

The framework of NATO exercises, growing from year to year, cannot fail to cause serious concern among the European public. The Atlanticists' actions look particularly odious against the background of the fact that the Warsaw Pact states, true to the accords concluded in Helsinki in 1975, are refraining altogether from holding major maneuvers. Their armed forces' exercises are incomparably smaller in terms of the scale and composition of participants and are mainly of the nature of replies to major NATO exercises and maneuvers. The public is well aware that the Soviet Union and other socialist community countries have more than once proposed to NATO members that the two sides limit the scale of their military exercises in Europe to a level of 50,000-60,000 men. However, this proposal has still not met with a positive response from the North Atlantic bloc members.

The Autumn-Forge-78 maneuvers, which lasted from August through November this year, involved about 50 different bloc and national exercises. The biggest of these were the exercise in moving American troops from the United States to Europe codenamed Reforger-10 and exercises by the bloc's allied armed forces on FRG territory, in the Baltic Straits zone and in the Atlantic. According to the West German magazine DER STERN, these maneuvers involved more than 300,000 men, about 13,000 tanks and armored carriers, more than 2,000 combat aircraft and up to 400 ships in the main classes.

With the aim of preparing the largest possible number of American commands and units, which make up the so-called bloc reserve, for hostilities in Europe, NATO headquarters researched and tested in practice their potential for reinforcing and using strike groupings of armed forces in the European and Atlantic theaters of war. Thus during the Reforger-10 exercise more than 13,000 servicemen were moved to Europe from the United States. As the American press notes, apart from the personnel of "dual based" commands, that is, commands whose combat hardware is stored in the FRG and whose personnel are in the United States, during these exercises units and subunits of three divisions which are only beginning to operate on the European Continent were also brought across the ocean.

Incidentally, this was one of the special features of the Autumn Forge-78 exercises. Moreover, according to the journal AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY, during the exercises U.S. strategic aircraft played a direct practical part for the first time in air support for NATO Allied Armed Forces in the central European theater of hostilities. B-52 bombers actually carried out combat training flights from the continental United States to FRG firing ranges. Also for the first time a U.S. Marine brigade was moved into the Baltic Straits zone during the exercises.

The Autumn-Forge-78 manuevers were distinguished by their huge geographical scale. At the same time it is still apparent that the greater part of the exercises took place mainly on FRG territory. This fall the FRG, particularly in regions bordering on socialist community countries, was transformed, in the full sense of the word, into a huge firing range by NATO headquarters. FRG Defense Minister H. Apel admitted that the Autumn Forge-78 maneuvers were the biggest on German territory since the thirties.

Political observers drew special attention to the active participation of West German commands in NATO maneuvers and to the high offensive potential they displayed. France's LE FIGARO wrote that "the Bundeswehr is reviving the traditions of big German armies and is constantly seeking to improve its qualitative standard." In this connection certain Western press organs have voiced fears that some people on the Rhine would have no objection to reviving the Prussian spirit or the spirit of revanchism.

Natural fears. It is obvious that certain Bonn circles' encouragement of the NATO military which is using the country's territory for maneuvers of the Autumn Forge type and other military displays against the USSR and other socialist community countries, is hard to reconcile with statements by FRG leaders about their desire to develop relations with socialist countries in a spirit of peace, friendship and neighborliness.

The use of West German territory by militarists from NATO headquarters is arousing angry protests from the country's progressive forces and from sober-minded FRG citizens. Nonetheless, the question of reducing the number of bloc exercises on FRG territory has been postponed by official Bonn. NATO headquarters have begun the planning of the Autumn Forge-79 maneuvers, which will apparently concede nothing to this year's in scale.

Such facts demonstrate the timeliness of the conclusion reached by the Warsaw Pact conference in Moscow on the stepping up of activity by the forces of imperialism and reaction. These forces are whipping up the arms race, flagrantly interfering in other states' internal affairs, thereby creating a threat to the process of detente, and pursuing the aims of aggression, revanche and hegemony.

TERRORISM IN SPAIN INCOMPATIBLE WITH DEMOCRACY, FREEDOM

LD091120Y Moscow in Spanish to Spain 2200 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Yuriy (Titnov) commentary]

[Text] Alarming news is coming in from Spain. A month after the constitutional referendum, and a week after the dissolution of the Cortes and the calling of general and municipal elections, another terrorist act has taken place: The military governor of Madrid, Gen Ortin Gil, was assassinated. Responsibility for the death of Constantino Ortin Gil was claimed by the military wing of ETA, which announced the start of its armed offensive against the army hierarchy.

Several days have passed since the crime without the assassins being found. During the funeral, extreme rightwingers tried to provoke disorder. They shouted provocative slogans: The Army to Power! This call was aimed at reactionary officers, the adversaries of the policy of democratization. The Spanish press, in condemning the growing number of assassinations, gives the following figures: Last year, nearly 100 people were killed by terrorists.

Responsibility for terrorism falls as much on extreme rightwing elements as on those of the extreme left. Speaking on national television, Interior Minister Martin Villa recognized that Spain is going through difficult times. He said the government will take strong measures against terrorism, which tries to deprive the Spanish people of the democratic freedoms which they have won for themselves. Minister Martin Villa also said that the government will do everything possible to take into account in its policy the demands of the different peoples of Spain. At the same time, the minister said, the government flatly rejects any negotiation with the assassins, considering that to agree to negotiation would mean damaging freedom and democracy in Spain.

Progressive public opinion in Spain condemns this new political murder, calling it a crime. It is an act, the Executive Committee of the Spanish Communist Party [PCE] says, which seeks to provoke the armed forces to intervene in political life, to attain a political regression and to create a climate of chaos and insecurity in the country. The PCE Executive stresses the need to strengthen the unity of all the progressive forces to stop the dealings of both the extreme right and left wings.

Of course, among these extremists, [words indistinct], there are those who find themselves in this current by chance, because of political immaturity. They think that only with the help of terrorist actions can the political climate change in favor of national liberation, social justice and against monopolists and all types of oppression. We do not agree with them. Terrorism is incompatible with the ideals of democracy and freedom. Terrorist actions serve the forces which oppose these ideals. Terrorism, while it fans the antidemocratic spirit in certain Spanish circles, serves as a cover for the reactionary maneuvers of those who wish to maintain Francoism without Franco in Spain.

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO COMMENT ON SITUATION IN IRAN

Soviet 'Threat' to Iran Nonexistent

LD081401Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[V. Matveyev article: "Surrounding Events in Iran"]

[Excerpt] Events in Iran are continuing to attract great attention. Much is attested by the trag fact that more than 3,000 people have already been killed in the unceasing disturbances in that country. Including the wounded, the number of victims is four times as great. Such is the recent estimate of America's foreign affairs. In an article headlined "Yankee Go Home!" the Tehran correspondent of NEWSWEEK, another American magazine, wrote that "the almost 41,000 American citizens in Iran are an object of hatred...."

Not only commentators but officials in the United States have spoken of Iran as the "main prop" of Washington's economic and military strategy in the vast region extending from the Indian Subcontinent to North Africa. Z. Brzezinski, the U.S. President's assistant for national security affairs, declared recently: "From the strategic viewpoint--both economically and politically--Iran represents an important link in the collective Western economic and political system."

High-ranking Washington figures are expressing dissatisfaction that the "ubiquitous CIA" was unable to inform U.S. policymakers in time of the impending domestic upheavals in Iran. But was it necessary to delve into the files of the appropriate residents and agents in order to understand the truth which provides the key to what is now happening in Iran? The point is that the colonial empires did not collapse so that the same old foreign predators could continue to exploit the wealth of young, politically independent, sovereign states!

John Cooley, commentator for America's CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, wrote with complete justification recently that the turbulent events in countries which "since the fifties have formed the northern stratum of forward borders against the Soviet Union in the Near East are occasioning a serious question about the U.S. role in these states." What is this role? Some light was shed on this by the shah of Iran when in May 1977 he declared in an interview with France's PARIS-MATCH that Iran has no intention of "yielding to this blackmail, to this 'communist threat' which the West is brandishing in order to continue to exploit us."

Indeed, the authors of these fabrications need to use intimidation, utilizing the "Soviet threat", to derive material and political advantages for themselves. And not last among these advantages is the gamble that under cover of this slander campaign it will be easier to foist the fetters of a neocolonialist policy on the states which cast off the imperialist yoke.

Let us turn once again to Brzezinski's remarks. In a new year interview for the New York TIMES Sunday supplement he alleged: "Today the crisis zone is the group of states on the shores of the Indian Ocean--a kind of 'arc of instability' which can be drawn on a map from Chittagong in Bangladesh, through Islamabad, all the way to Aden. Their internal social and political instability is perhaps closely linked with the influence of Soviet might...."

Every phrase here is an arbitrary treatment of the facts. What "crisis," what "instability" is there? Together with the other states that have emerged from the debris of the colonial empires, the countries of this region are waging a difficult struggle to strengthen their independence.

At the beginning of January 1974, Iran's KEYHAN featured an article under the headline "Who Is Plundering the 'Third World' Countries?" It pointed out that in the previous year alone, the West obtained from the developing countries a net profit of $26 billion. Here is another fact cited by the newspaper: From 1953-1973 the prices of the industrial goods exported by the West and Japan increased eight times over whereas the cost of raw materials either had not changed or had declined. And the overwhelming majority of developing countries are suppliers of raw materials.

Mr Brzezinski cannot be unaware of these facts. But he pretends that they do not exist and drags out the threadbare bugbear of the "Soviet threat," brandishing it before those countries where the governments and the peoples are struggling for complete liberation from imperialist dependence.

All that has been said relates directly to events in Iran. "Iran's economic and military infrastructure has been created by Americans,"--these words of FOREIGN AFFAIRS magazine are illustrated by the following facts, for instance. In the estimate of France's LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE, there are now 25,000 American military specialists in Iran--that is, approximately as many as there were in South Vietnam in 1965. In the fifties Iran's military budget totalled about $10 million but it had increased a thousandfold by the mid-seventies--to $10 billion per year. Since 1972 Iran has spent $14 billion on arms purchases from the United States. The Pentagon was the initiator of these massive deliveries. This practice of fueling armament in a country whose people live under conditions of serious social hardships evoked many cautionary voices in the United States. Thus, Senator Edward Kennedy pointed out back in 1975 that "military modernizations, whose pace is out of line with the modernization of society as a whole, is a dangerous game in the Persian Gulf."

Let us cite the remark of another Western author who also cannot be suspected of wishing to cast aspersions on U.S. policy in Iran. Geoffrey Barraclough wrote in the NEW YORK REVIEW in November 1978: "Take a look at recent events in Iran in order to see that abundant investments in modern American armaments are in no way a guarantee against a population beset by poverty and oppression."

These and other facts are not an "invention of communist propaganda." This must be stated with the utmost clarity in connection with the attempts by certain Washington officials to criticize the Soviet press, radio and television for, it is said, incorrectly covering the situation in Iran. Things are going so far that official Washington departments are inspiring American press articles with the most blatant speculations about the Soviet Union's position on the Iranian situation. But none of the facts cited in this article have been conjured up out of thin air, as they say. These facts are used by those authors in the United States and other Western countries who are reluctant to close their eyes to the fundamental reasons for the present internal upheavals in Iran.

Guns, bombs, and missiles in exchange for oil--Iran's basic national resource. This is more or less what "trade" between the United States and Iran amounts to. Can a massive quantity of American arms contribute to the solution of Iran's very acute domestic problems? Of course not. To the American proponents of this course Iran is a "guard" protecting American interests and positions in the Middle East and Persian Gulf. Washington applauded when in 1972 the Iranian Armed Forces participated in British operations to suppress the national liberation movement in Oman.

It is clear even to the uninitiated that the complex domestic problems have not been resolved but have become more involved. In the midseventies the living standard of 70 percent of the Iranian working people was beneath the level necessary, as Iranian economists (B. Montazami) and (Kh. Naragi) wrote in LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE, "even to insure the reproduction of the work force." According to their figures, the country's cost of living rose 59 percent between 1970 and 1976 and then increased by one-third in 1976 alone. The position of the rural population was particularly grim and gloomy. There was a constant buildup of social tension in the country.

Meanwhile, Washington stuck to its old course, placing even greater emphasis on military-strategic measures. On 10 September 1977, an AP correspondent reported from Washington, quoting American officials: According to a secret directive from President Carter it is planned to broaden U.S. strategic tasks, incorporating the defense of the Persian Gulf, especially Iran, against possible "foreign aggression"....

What happened subsequently is well known. The Persian Gulf did not become the arena of any "unexpected actions," but the atmosphere inside Iran became hotter not by the day but by the hour. It was the unceremonious, loutish behavior in the country of those who are allegedly "devoted to Iran's interests" which caused particularly keen displeasure among the masses. "The American military potential is of little benefit in this local situation exacerbated essentially by domestic social and political forces. This is a sobering lesson for the United States," the American magazine U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT wrote last November.

A sober judgement, yet one which did not reflect the mood prevalent among official Washington circles. They had and, by all appearances, still have plans and expectations which give priority to "power" politics in conjunction with the propagation of deliberately slanderous stories about the alleged "external threat" to Iran. On 31 December the New York TIMES wrote that the U.S. administration was contemplating a "show of force" in the Persian Gulf and dispatching fighter-bomber squadrons to Iran. For what reason? What purpose would these aircraft serve?

Citing official sources in Washington, American commentators are currently saying that the United States has begun to "review" its policy in the Middle and Near East. It is planned to send more weapons to "pro-Western" regimes. It is proposed to strengthen Israel's military potential even more quickly. And, finally, the New York TIMES writes, Washington would like to bring about a "military alliance" between Israel and Egypt. As the Russian saying goes: The same soup but thicker....

Over the past few days there has been a new outburst in the American bourgeois press and television of the slanderous campaign about the alleged "external threat" to Iran. These organs are getting appropriate "whispers" from official circles in Washington. This is indicated, for example, by James Reston's lines in the Washington POST: "Officials here (in Washington)," he writes, "are alarmed lest the Soviet Union gain control of the world's oil supplies (!)."

This is the kind of fiction the mass so-called information media representatives are resorting to in the United States! It is appropriate to ask: What is the aim of those who are spreading the provocative lies? There is only one answer! Obviously, their authors will use any pretext for preparing new acts of interference in Iran's internal affairs--even the above-mentioned "shows of force."

There is no concealing the facts. Soviet-Iranian relations have been and are being built on principles of equality, mutual respect for each other's sovereign rights and interests, noninterference in one another's internal affairs and businesslike cooperation. The current Soviet-Iranian treaty, concluded 26 February 1921, was the first equitable treaty Iran had concluded with another state. Ties and contacts between our countries are developing in many spheres. The USSR's economic assistance to Iran aims at creating the foundations of a modern industry in Iran, including metallurgy, machinebuilding and power. The Soviet-Iranian border is a border of peace and neighborliness.

Naturally, our country is sympathetic toward Iran's struggle to strengthen its political and economic independence. We well understand the national aspirations of the Iranian people and their desire and determination to be complete masters in their own house. There can be no doubt that it is for the Iranian people alone to decide what path they should follow. The Soviet side has pointed out most authoritatively that any outside interference in Iran's internal affairs cannot be permitted. These are difficult times in Iran. One would like to believe that the country and its people will be able in the very near future to surmount these ordeals and proceed along the path of confident national development, of insuring social justice and strengthening state sovereignty.

PRAVDA Response To U.S. Objection

LD081429Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 79 p 5 LD

[Unattributed article: "By Way of Information"; Russian: V. Poryadke Informatsii]

[Text] PRAVDA has received a letter from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow complaining that our newspaper allegedly "characterizes incorrectly the U.S. administration's policy concerning Iran." The letter even says: "Allegations that the United States is interfering in Iran's internal affairs by sending 'special groups' there with the task of helping the shah to retain control are far removed from the facts." In keeping with the wish expressed in the letter that we "use all the numerous sources of information at PRAVDA's disposal," we will also allow ourselves to cite the New York TIMES. In its 16 December 1978 issue, in a dispatch from the Iranian capital, direct from the scene of events, so to speak, it reported:

"The staff of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran is being bolstered by dozens of specialists sent here in an attempt to help the shah repulse the growing threat to his regime. This is reported in embassy circles.

"...According to embassy employees, the new arrivals here include a number of CIA specialists on Iran, in addition to diplomats and servicemen. Some have served in Iran before and have been sent back there to utilize their experience.

"...As embassy circles point out, military specialists and specialists on internal security comprise the largest group of new arrivals. They reportedly include specialists in suppressing disturbances, who will advise the Iranian command dealing with mass demonstrations."

As far as is known, this and many other similar U.S. press reports have elicited neither objections nor denials from Washington. Nevertheless, the U.S. Embassy letter points out that "the United States invariably supports and pursues a policy of noninterference in Iran's internal affairs. In our view this is very important, particularly at the present difficult time. Iranians must themselves seek the solution to their problems."

But how does the sending of U.S. warships to the Persian Gulf appear against this background? Or information in the same New York TIMES: "The U.S. administration is now concentrating its efforts on maintaining unity in the Iranian Armed Forces in support of Bakhtiar's civilian government"?

All of this activity clearly contradicts official declarations. And it is evidently not without grounds that the participants in mass demonstrations in Tehran, Mashhad and other Iranian cities are protesting increasingly resolutely against U.S. interference in Iran's internal affairs.

U.S. 'Political Machinations'

LD081541Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[V. Ardatovskiy review: "What Is Happening in Iran"]

[Text] In Iran's more than 2,000-year history there have been few days as difficult and, at the same time, as decisive as those through which the people of this Middle Eastern country are now living. The Iranians' struggle against reactionary forces, which continue to enjoy political and military support from imperialist circles, has reached its climax. These circles' interference in the internal struggle in Iran on the side of the enemies of the overwhelming majority of the people is assuming increasingly broad and diverse forms.

The United States no longer conceals the start of a "show of strength" directed against the Iranian people. A Pentagon spokesman has confirmed that a naval formation of three ships, including a missile cruiser, has entered the Persian Gulf. Such a "presence" of a U.S. fleet in these waters so far from America has not been observed for a long time. But the plans are more extensive: The world press reports that four additional ships in the Indian Ocean are ready to set course for the Iranian coast. Another squadron headed by the aircraft carrier Consellation has moved into the South China Sea.

In the history of imperialist interventions repeated use has been made of the pretext of "protecting foreign citizens" in times of internal disturbances. And it is evidently no accident that the American press has long been importunately repeating different figures for the number of Americans remaining in Iran--now 35,000, now 30,000. To "justify" intervention a ballyhoo has also frequently been raised over accidental or provocative killings of subjects of Western powers, and there has already been one such instance in Iran involving an American oil company employee.

It is an objective fact that the popular movement in Iran has acquired anti-American features. But it is understandable that no less objective reasons lie behind it: In Iran the United States personifies the chief foreign mainstay of the antipopular regime, the power that imposed the country's militarization and the state of the monopolies that have seized a considerable share of the Persian natural resources. Furthermore, Washington has always looked on Iran as its chief fortified bridgehead throughout the adjacent oil-bearing zone.

Seeking to preserve its positions and to defend its mercenary interests, the United States is combining demonstrative fleet maneuvers with economic pressure and political machinations inside Iran prompted by Tehran "advisers" from the CIA and other foreign policy special services. One such attempt to turn the tide of events is the creation of the civilian coalition government of Shahpur Bakhtiar, who has promised to make concessions to the opposition. "At the shah's request" 164 prisoners have even been released from jail in Mashhad. (But who will restore to life the hundreds and thousands shot by punitive soldiers?) [paragraph continues]

But it is very significant that at a recent press conference Bakhtiar, as AFP reports, replied to a question on the possibility of a rightwing military coup by saying that Iran, in his opinion, is not a typical country for putsches, but it is possible that one will happen although he will endeavor to avoid it....

Judging from world press reports, the accession to power of a "strongman" in Iran who would ruthlessly crush any popular resistance has also "been under consideration for some time in certain brain centers." General Oveysi, head of Tehran's present military administration, is even named. "Black colonels" can most likely be found in Iran,too, if you so wish. But will they be able to hold out for long using bayonets in the atmosphere of the nationwide movement for freedom, democracy and national independence?

It is characteristic that the United States is including more and more allies in its Iranian policy. Thus, West German banks have refused to exchange Iranian currency; American commercial firms have stopped dispatching wheat and rice consignments already purchased. Following pressure from Washington, countries such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which previously supported the Iranian opposition movement, have changed their positions. But the threat of direct American interference in the sovereign state's internal affairs remains the main thing. France's LE FIGARO warns of the danger of "internationalizing the conflict," although it does not specify that this danger stems only from one side.

The Soviet Union is Iran's neighbor. It is linked with that country by peaceful business relations based on the principles of equal rights and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. The Soviet people are the Iranian people's sincere friends and believe that they must live as they wish and travel the road of progress and peace. Any external interference in Iran's internal affairs is inadmissible and could have serious consequences, of which the Soviet Union has already warned publicly.

Government Blamed for Fuel Crisis

LD091055Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 79 p 5 LD

[Correspondent A. Filippov dispatch: "Iran: Tension Remains"]

[Text] Tehran, 5 January--Demonstrations occurred yet again in Tehran yesterday evening after the curfew came into effect. People took to the city streets shouting: "Down With the Shah!" "Bakhtiar Is a Traitor!" and "No to American Interference!" Soldiers fired on demonstrators who tried to break through into the district where Bakhtiar lives. Antigovernment demonstrations continued today in the capital and in the cities of Maragheh, Sarab, Azar Shahr, Benab, 'Ajab Shir, Yazd and others. They were broken up by troops and police.

A majority of the opposition parties, including the leading National Front organization, are boycotting the appeal from Shahpur Bakhtiar, who has been appointed to the post of prime minister, to participate in forming a civilian government. Their position, and they have told foreign journalists this, remains immutable; the shah must be removed from power. And only after this will it be possible to speak of normalizing the situation in the country and forming a government. They call Bakhtiar's program thoroughly demagogic and calculated to deceive public opinion, and they call his appeal to Mossadeq's ideas blasphemous and perfidious.

It has become known that a section of the country's religious figures is biding its time with regard to the government which is being formed. Its supporters are now seeking to split the opposition forces and to detach from them, in particular, influential religious circles.

The authorities are continuing their attempts, which the help of individual figures of the so-called moderate opposition who have sided with them, to persuade oil refinery workers to return to work. In this connection, sources connected with the National Front point out that the shortage of gasoline, kerosene and fuel oil has been caused not by the oil workers' strike but by the authorities' policy. There are sufficient stocks of oil and petroleum products in store, they point out, to supply the population without interruption. But the authorities are seeking to direct the public discontent against the opposition forces by holding back fuel now that cold weather has set in.

A general strike in the main production sectors is continuing in the country, as well as among workers in ground and air transport and postal and telegraph workers. The strike is taking place under slogans of removing the shah from power and ending American interference.

Demonstrations Continue

LD081715Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 79 p 5 LD

[Text] New York, 5 January, TASS--Mass demonstrations are continuing in Iran against the existing regime. In Shiraz troops used firearms to break up a demonstration by the city's residents who had taken to the streets with the slogans "Down With the Shah!" and "Yankees Out of Iran!" In Hamadan striking workers and employees were joined by medical workers, and in Abadan by court organ employees. As foreign agencies report, big demonstrations have been held in Mianeh, Khorramshahr, Malayer and Masjed Soleyman.

According to eyewitnesses coming out of Mashhad, the military authorities used heavy tanks and armored carriers against demonstrators. Real street battles have lasted several days in Mashhad. Half the city is in insurgent hands.

The Mashhad events, during which, according to some figures, tens of thousands of people died, have caused a storm of indignation throughout the country.

Almost every night there are demonstrations in the capital near the American Embassy, which is carefully guarded by troops and police. Leaflets have appeared with the text of the National Front leadership's decision to expel from that political organization Bakhtiar, whom the shah yesterday officially entrusted with forming a government. Not one of the 26 members of the front's Supreme Council came out in support of the new premier.

New York TIMES commentator J. Reston writes: "Carter has sent Gen R. Huyser to Tehran in the hope of avoiding a split in the ranks of the officer corps in Iran." Reston points out that the question of "sending a group of U.S. warships to the Persian Gulf in the future remains open."

Western correspondents emphasize that the shah has entrusted Bakhtiar, on American advice, with forming a civilian government in the hope that it will be able to put an end to the present popular disturbances in the country.

Conditions in Tehran

LD081327Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent A. Akhmedzyanov report: "Iran's Concerns"]

[Text] Tehran--It was one of those now rare days in Tehran when since morning there had been no big demonstrations, no tanks thundering about the streets, and the shooting had died down. True, from 2100 hours when the curfew began, the nocturnal quiet had been punctured by the now customary rounds of submachinegun fire. The shouts of many thousands of nighttime demonstrators--a new form of protest against the curfew--came from the workers' quarters. The struggle is continuing.

The hurried evacuation of foreigners has been proceeding for many days now. All approaches to the capital's airport, from which the evacuation is being carried out, are covered by troops. Our car travels between two dense rows of military trucks. Our documents are checked repeatedly. The tense figures of soldiers stand behind the machineguns. They are protecting the foreigners' departure from the country. The aircraft of British, French and FRG commercial airlines take off with a roar, carrying as far away as possible from unsettled Iran thousands of foreigners who had formerly come here in search of easy money. According to some figures, in December and through the first days of January about 20,000 Americans, Britons and citizens of the FRG and other Western countries had already left the seething country. The United States and Canada are evacuating their citizens on military transport aircraft.

The airport's Iranian personnel are on strike. They have been replaced in the control towers by members of the Iranian Air Force, and at the airfield maintenance and supply service the Western airlines are using their own personnel. The aircraft are not being refueled--there is no fuel.

An elderly Persian, a customs worker, observing the commotion in the hall, says with alarm in his voice, as though thinking aloud: "I don't like this hasty departure. Isn't it connected with the appearance of the American armada in the Persian Gulf? Isn't the United States intending to send its paratroopers to the aid of the fugitives?"

We return to the city along Eisenhower Avenue. Usually noisy and crowded with thousands of vehicles, today it looks like an abandoned battlefield: Along the road are the burnt-out shells of automobiles, the remains of barricades made out of barrels and chunks of metal. Here and there bonfires of toppled trees and construction timber are still smoldering on the asphalt. A clash between students and troops took place here.

The road from 24 Esfand Square to the city center is blocked by troops. The university region begins here, one of the hotbeds of the antigovernment student movement. Therefore, the region of Tehran University has been under seige for almost a year. As in other higher educational establishments in the country, classes were halted here long ago. All overpasses at the intersections of the central streets are closed, but there is no special need for them. Road traffic in the city has virtually stopped as there is no gasoline. Thousands of abandoned vehicles clutter the sidewalks, winding like a dead snake along streets and alleyways to crowd the lifeless gas pumps.

The kerosene is running out. There is no central heating system in Tehran. Each house owned by the affluent has its own "boiler room" which is fueled by kerosene. But the majority of the population heats its homes with kerosene stoves--("bukhari")--installed in every room. Luckily for the people of Tehran, the winter in Iran is still mild and the daytime temperature is holding steady at 10-12 degrees centigrade, falling below freezing only at night. But, unaccustomed even to these temperatures, Iranians are feeling the cold.

Not a single enterprise is operating either in Tehran or the suburbs. All stores except bakeries are closed. Restaurants and cafes are not operating. It is reported from Ahvaz that oil workers have agreed to resume oil extraction and the production of petroleum products sufficient to meet the country's domestic requirements. The fuel situation may now possibly become easier.

In the past few days the most burning topic in the capital has been the prospects for Bakhtiar's formation of a civilian government. The shah's choice fell on this former member of the National Front and Iran Party leader because, in contrast to other members of the opposition, he has agreed to the retention of the monarchy. Whereas at the beginning of his talks with the shah's household there was talk of limiting the shah's power to that of a constitutional monarchy, now they prefer not to mention this. The shah retains power over the army--thanks to which the regime is still holding out. The terms under which Bakhtiar has headed the civilian government are a retreat from the demands of the opposition. The National Front has sharply condemned Bakhtiar's position. On Sunday the National Front urged the population of Tehran to join in a funeral procession to honor the memory of the demonstrators who have died in the past few days.

Anti-U.S. Feelings Among Troops

LD081530Y Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan 1330 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Reports from Tehran indicate the spread of antimonarchy and anti-U.S. sentiments among the troops. A group of opposition servicemen at a military base near Tehran killed 14 officers for their participation in the brutal suppression of antigovernment demonstrations. In the south of the country another group of soldiers tried those who suppressed the striking oil workers. Over 400 servicemen deserted the military garrison in Karaj last month. A day of general strike in tribute to the memory of the victims of the antigovernment demonstrations was observed in Iran yesterday at the invitation of the opposition.

Press Freedom

LD091013Y Moscow TASS in English 0905 GMT 9 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade, January 9, TASS--The international UNESCO commission for the study of communication problems received a telegram from the Federation of Iranian Journalists, denouncing the violations of freedom of the press in Iran. This was announced by its chairman, S. MacBride (Ireland) at the fourth session of the commission which opened in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia yesterday. The telegram expresses "protest against the flagrant violations of the rights of journalists, their deprivation of freedom and other repressive steps aimed at preventing free and unbiased coverage of developments in Iran."

Shah's Departure Rumored

LD081927Y Moscow TASS in English 1830 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 8, TASS--Today scores of thousands of people again emerged into the streets of Tehran in order to pay tribute, following the call of the opposition leaders, to the memory of the victims of the army and police brutality. Demonstrations also took place in Mashhad, Esfahan, Shiraz, Abadan, Yazd and many other cities.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS correspondent notes that today's demonstrations in Tehran were the most impressive during the week. The participants shouted slogans against the shah and the new government formed by Bakhtiar. Streets once again are blocked by barricades.

In Tabriz, demonstrators overturned cars and burned them. About 100 fires flared up in the city, several banks, police stations, government buildings and cinemas projecting American films burnt down. Mehdi Bazargan, an opposition leader, said that the strike of the Iranian petroleum workers "holds despotism by the throat" andso it should continue until a victorious outcome.

The New York TIMES writes that the new civilian government of Bakhtiar already during the first days of its existence is facing serious problems and so far no immediate signs are available to suggest that it can stop the current political and economic turmoil in the country.

Paris, January 8, TASS--Iran's capital is still alive with rumors of an impending departure of the shah abroad "for rest and treatment." A FRANCE PRESS correspondent reports that the shah's personal Boeing is parked, ready to fly, in a sector of Tehran's airport controlled by the army. The army's top brass remain the only support of the existing regime. The shah, according to the agency, has set up a secret military council of high-ranking generals whose task is to ensure for the head of state the possibility, after departing abroad, to return to the country at any moment if the situation in Iran so requires. In other words, if the opposition tries, in the shah's absence, to liquidate the monarchy, the army must oppose this move by force. In this connection the FRENCH PRESS concentrates its attention on the negotiations being held on orders from the U.S. President, by Robert Huyser, deputy commander of American forces in Europe, with Iranian top army officers in Tehran.

Day of Mourning

LD082351Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Tens of thousands of people took part in antigovernment demonstrations in Tehran and other Iranian cities today. According to reports by Western correspondents, the demonstrations in Tehran were the largest held in the capital for the past week. Violent clashes took place between demonstrators and soldiers in the university area. To prevent incidents, the armed forces blocked the roads leading to the American Embassy. Most marches through the streets were accompanied by slogans stressing the need for an end to U.S. intervention in the internal affairs of Iran. Soldiers once again opened fire on the demonstrators today, which was a day of mourning, in memory of the victims of acts of suppression.

Airline Strike

LD082354Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] Iran is observing a day of mourning in tribute to the memory of the martyrs who have fought against the present regime. According to reports by news agencies, as a result of a similar day of mourning and a general strike held yesterday, all aspects of Iranian life were effectively crippled. Massive demonstrations were staged in Tehran and other cities against the present regime and America's intervention in Iranian affairs.

In Tehran, soldiers used teargas and fired into the air to disperse the demonstrators. Units of the armed forces and police were stationed in the main streets and squares of Tehran and did not allow the various groups of demonstrators to link up with each other. However, groups of young people set fires in Pahlavi, Shahreza, Navvab and other streets and [words indistinct]. The sound of machinegun and automatic weapons fire was heard from the area of the American Embassy.

A special (?feature) of the current demonstrations is the active participation of Iranian women. The women participating in the massive march which took place in the city of Semnan called for the continuation of the struggle for social, economic and political liberties. In addition, massive demonstrations took place in Hamadan, Ardabil, Tabriz and other cities. In Langarud, opponents of the regime controlled the city for 2 days. Employees of the Iranian National Airlines have stopped work at airports. Soldiers are working at the airports, but because of their lack of experience no planes dare to land at night. The strikers have announced with full (?awareness) that they will not allow a single American or Israeli plane to land. As a result of the barbaric suppression of demonstrators, about 300 people have been killed and (?several thousand) wounded in recent days.

LEBANESE RIGHTWING, ISRAELI MILITARY CONTINUE PROVOCATIONS

LD081514Y Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, January 8, TASS--Tension persists in the Lebanese capital. Last night armed formations of the right-wing Christian elements again opened fire on the positions of the inter-Arab peacekeeping force in the southeastern districts of Beirut. Both sides used heavy weapons, mortars and missiles. Fires broke out in several places, human casualties are reported.

The statement of the command of the the inter-Arab peacekeeping force in the Lebanon, circulated here, strongly condemned the attempts of the right-wing Christian units to thwart the Lebanese Government's efforts to normalise the situation in the country. In its turn, the Israeli militarists do not cease their provocations against the south Lebanese areas. Israeli warplanes are systematically carrying out reconaissance flights over Lebanese territory, while Israeli warships are blockading the country's coastline from An-Naqurah to Sidon.

EGYPT REPORTEDLY TRAINING LEBANESE 'CONSERVATIVES'

LD091026Y Moscow TASS in English 0815 GMT 9 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, January 9, TASS--The present Egyptian regime maintains links with the Lebanese conservative forces and sends its specialists to them "to give assistance". As is reported by the newspaper AS-SAFIR, in the past week alone 15 Egyptian security service officers came to Lebanon through the Juniayh port. In the eastern area of Beirut alone there are now several dozens "specialists" from Cairo, who train assult men of the Kata'eb Party, according to the newspaper.

AS-SADAT MAKES NEW 'CONCESSIONS' IN LETTER TO VANCE

LD081640Y Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, January 8, TASS--Intensive preparations are being continued in the Egyptian capital, as well as in Tel Aviv and Washington for the next round of the separate negotiations between the Arab Republic of Egypt and Israel.

The Egyptian prime minister, Mustafa Khalil, addressed a message yesterday to Secretary of State Cyrus Vance confirming the readiness of his government to resume the discussion of the details of a separate deal with Israel.

Receiving a group of American congressmen in Aswan, As-Sadat said that he was prepared to sign a treaty with Israel right away. He stressed that the unstable situation in Iran called for the earliest possible conclusion of a "peace treaty" between Cairo and Israel.

The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH, which is close to the Egyptian Government circles, reported that Khalil's message to Cyrus Vance testified to the "softening" of the Egyptian attitude to Article 6 of the draft treaty, which actually compels Egypt to denounce the commitments it assumed previously under the agreements on joint defence with other Arab nations. The Egyptian position has also become "softer" as regards the question of exchanging embassies with Israel. Thus, even before the opening of one more round of the separate negotiations Cairo has announced new concessions in face of the joint pressure exerted upon it by Washington and Tel Aviv, concessions which contradict the vital interests of the Egyptian and other Arab nations.

Liability of the Egyptian leadership has been received with satisfaction in Tel Aviv. The Israeli prime minister, Begin, said that he hopes for an early resumption of the negotiations with Egypt and final drafting of the bilateral "peace" treaty. Commentators note that in past days the head of the Israeli Government repeatedly confirmed in public statements Israel's categoric refusal to withdraw all its troops from the occupied Arab territories, to recognize the right of the Arab people of Palestine to create their own independent state.

WEST HOPES EGYPT WILL BETRAY ARAB INTERESTS

LD081245Y Moscow TASS in English 1159 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 8, TASS--Western imperialist circles pin particular hopes on activities of the present leadership of Egypt, which embarked upon the road of betrayal of the interests of the Arab peoples. These circles regard Cairo as an important tool of conducting their policy in the Middle East and in the Persian Gulf.

A delegation of the Congressional Armed Services Committee of the U.S.A. has visited Cairo. In the course of the negotiations, according to member of the delegation Donald Mitchell, the president of Egypt asked the American Government to continue military, financial and technical aid to friendly countries, and not to limit it. He also said that discussed at the negotiations was also the question of deliveries to Egypt of American F-5E planes, which were to begin yet in November last year.

In 1978, Egypt already concluded deals with the American Motors on the construction of the territory of the Arab Republic of Egypt of a plan to manufacture army vehicles, with the British Aerospace--on the construction of an enterprise for the manufacture of antitank Swingfire missiles, and also with Rolls Royce and Westland Aircraft--on the construction of a plant to manufacture Lynx helicopters.

Apart from the above-mentioned weapons and military equipment, manufactured in Egypt will be Franco-British Jaguar fighter planes, Franco-Italian Tomat ship-to-ship missiles, French ground-to-air Crotale missiles.

The question arises: Whom Egypt is going to fight against? Arab reaction, who are pooling their efforts and who make their stake on close cooperation with arms merchants in the West, do not conceal that the aim of the establishments and the build-up of military production is to fight against the national liberation movement which is mounting in the region, to defend the interest of imperialism.

U.S., ISRAEL URGE EGYPT TO REACH SEPARATE PEACE

LD051747Y Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 5 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 5, TASS--Israeli Prime Minister Begin, speaking in Jerusalem at the meeting of the leadership of the ultraright "Likud" Party bloc yesterday, said that Tel Aviv is going to expand the network of its paramilitary settlements in the West Bank of the Jordan River and Gaza Strip. Thus, he cynically confirmed once again Israel's refusal to leave these Arab territories conquered by force as well as the intention not to allow the creation of an independent Palestinian state.

Despite the ostentatious rigidity of Israel's position, Egyptian Government is ready to resume negotiations on concluding the so-called "peace" treaty with Israel. Another round of the separate bargaining, in the words of Israeli diplomats, is intended to be held in Washington in mid-January. U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will directly participate in the meeting. It is noteworthy that Egyptian officials have already long been talking about signing a treaty with Israel as something inevitable.

The text of the separate treaty proposed, as is known, by the United States, has already been agreed between the respective representatives of Cairo and Tel Aviv. Both sides admit that only auxiliary technical details remain to be settled. Egypt insists, among others, that during the conclusion of the bilateral deal Israel undertake at least a purely formal commitment to ensure, in the future, autonomy for Arabs on the West Bank of Jordan and in the Gaza Strip. In response, Tel Aviv by its pronouncements and practical actions confirms the course aimed at further colonisation and annexation of these areas.

In these circumstances the United States is doing its utmost to try to pass off As-Sadat as a champion of pan-Arab interests, artificially playing up the propaganda ploy about Cairo's "firm" position. The aim of these efforts in which Washington is being assisted by Israeli propaganda is to camouflage Egypt's concessionist attitude, to neutralise opposition in the Arab world, [words indistinct] an early conclusion of a separate "peace" with Israel.

SHARON SUPPORTS NEW ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ON WEST BANK

LD090850Y Moscow TASS in English 0735 GMT 9 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 9, TASS--While continuing the separate bargaining with Egypt on concluding a "peace treaty" in the Middle East, the Government of Israel nevertheless continues encouraging the setting up of new Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories. As the UPI news agency reports from Tel Aviv, representatives of right-wing Zionist organisations, appearing on Israeli television, openly stated that they received promises from the government not to hinder the construction of a large Jewish settlement of urban type near the city of Nabulus, on the western bank of the Jordan. This promise they received officially from Ariel Sharon, Israeli minister of agriculture.

'ARAFAT ASSAILS U.S. PLOTS AGAINST PALESTINE

LD081140Y Moscow TASS in English 1135 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, January 8, TASS--The plots against the Palestinian people, which are organized and inspired by U.S. imperialism, are continuing incessantly, said Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization addressing a meeting held here to mark the 14th anniversary of the start of the Palestinian revolution. He pointed out that the USA and Israel hoped to end with the Palestinian revolution, so as to be able to impose on the Arab peoples a capitulatory settlement in the interests of American imperialism and Zionism. But the heroic resistance of the fighters of the Palestinian revolution and their Lebanese brothers in the course of the March aggression showed the ability of the revolution to repel any conspiracies and reaffirm that peace and stability in the region can be established only after the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are exercised.

The just struggle of the Palestinians has wide support in the international arena, the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee said.

DPFLP LEADER PLEDGES TIRELESS STRUGGLE AGAINST CAMP DAVID

LD081128Y Moscow TASS in English 1020 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, January 8, TASS--The Palestinian people will continue a tireless struggle against the capitulatory agreements signed in Camp David, and plans of elimination of the Palestine resistance movement. This has been stated in an interview to the "Voice of Palestine" radio station by Navif Hawatimah, general secretary of the Democratic Front of the Liberation of Palestine. The struggle, he said, demands closer unity of all our forces under the guidance of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The general secretary of the Democratic Front of the Liberation of Palestine has called for the earliest implementation of the decisions taken by Arab summit conferences on the Palestinian problem.

OFFICIALS ATTEND PLO RECEPTION IN MOSCOW

LD051123Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--On 28 December M. ash-Sha'ir, head of the PLO mission in the USSR, held a reception on the 14th anniversary of the Palestinian resistance movement.

The reception was attended by M. Kholov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, USSR first deputy ministers Yu.Ya. Barabash and G.M. Korniyenko, representatives of public organizations, figures active in science and culture and also heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the USSR.

M. ash-Sha'ir and M. Kholov exchanged speeches at the reception.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON FORMATION OF NEW TURKISH CYPRIOT PARTY

Need for Unity

LD042223Y Moscow in Turkish to Cyprus 1530 GMT 4 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] It is reported from Nicosia, at a time when there is talk about the possibility of resuming the intercommunal talks in Cyprus, that a new political organization called the Turkish Unity Party has been formed in northern Cyprus.

It is hard to see what sort of unity is involved. Tezer, the leader of this new party, has stated that it favors a true partition of the Cypriot state, that is to say, a completely separate existence for the Turkish and Greek population of the island.

The democratic press of Cyprus, commenting on the formation of the new political organization, notes that the party upholds concepts alien to the republic.

According to reports from Nicosia, the goals proclaimed by the new party are being widely criticized in both communities. The belief has lately been gathering strength among Turkish and Greek Cypriots that unity between the two communities should be reinforced to frustrate by joint efforts the imperialist plans to deprive the Republic of Cyprus of its independence and transform it into a NATO base. A great many democratic organizations both in the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities are expression the conviction that the Cypriots need to unite for a just solution of the Cyprus problem.

It is no accident that indications have recently been increasing that Turkish and Greek Cypriots are engaged in an effort to broaden the contacts between the two communities, to arrive at a joint stance on various aspects of the Cyprus problem, and that they are pooling their efforts to resist the dangerous plans for the partitioning of their native land. The Cyprus Federation of Labor, which has reestablished contact with the Turkish Cypriot trade union organization [word indistinct] has been engaged in great activity to this end. The national women's organizations on both sides are calling upon Cypriot citizens to unite their efforts and reinforce their solidarity in the struggle against the common enemy, imperialism. With this in mind, meetings are being organized between the militants of youth organizations of both communities.

The Restorative Party of the Working People [AKEL] is singlemindedly pursuing a policy of strengthening unity among Cypriots. Secretary General Papaioannou, speaking at the general meeting of the Central Committee and the central auditing commission of the AKEL party, appealed for the destruction of the wall separating the two communities, pointing out that the Turkish Cypriots have never been enemies of the Greek Cypriots. A great many rank-and-file Turkish Cypriots are also pointing out the necessity of bringing the two communities closer together.

Strengthening the unity between Turkish and Greek Cypriots is in the interests of both communities and of the independent Republic of Cyprus.

Surguchev Criticizes New Party

LD070300Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 6 Jan 79 LD

[Text] In the north of Cyprus, controlled by the administration of the Turkish-Cypriot community, a new political organization has been formed, the Turkish Unity Party.

This party, as its leader, Tezer, stated, is in favor of the declaration of an independent state in the north of the island which would lead to the splitup of the Republic of Cyprus. Our commentator Igor Surguchev observes that the newly emerged Turkish Unity Party, is the only political grouping in the entire territory of Cyprus which has openly proclaimed a course for the division of the country and the undermining of its territorial integrity. With the emergence of Tezer's party the reactionary underground and profascist groupings have acquired an opportunity for legally propagating their approach to the solution of the Cyprus problem and imposing it on the Cypriots. It is known that these forces, and therefore the new party, which according to information in the Cypriot paper KHARAVYI is closely linked to them, objectively operate in the interests of the NATO military bloc, whose ringleaders have been nurturing the idea of dividing Cyprus for a long time. The undermining of the territorial integrity of the republic is planned by them as a stage on the road to the eventual goal of turning the island or part of it into a NATO base in the Eastern Mediterranean. Having taken upon itself the role of the unwelcome mediator in the settlement of the Cyrpus crisis, the United States is engaged in forcing through this sinister plan, which is being presented in various ways with persistence worthy of a better application. However, so far all attempts to force the Cypriots to agree to a division of the country have met with failure. The population of the island, both Greek and Turkish, wants to live in an atmosphere of peace and accord in a united and independent state pursuing a policy of positive neutrality. The Cypriot people does not want its homeland to become a NATO base. It believes in the peaceful political settlement of the problem on the basis of the UN resolution on Cyprus. The creation, therefore, of the Turkish Unity Party has caused serious concern on the island. The aims put forward by this party have been subjected to resolute condemnation by political and public organizations of both communities in the country. The Nicosia paper O FIELELEVTHEROS underscores that such reactions to (Tezer's) statements bear witness to the general opposition by the Greek-Cypriots and Turkish-Cypriots to the plans to split up the Republic of Cyprus.

TURKISH POLITICIAN ON TIES BETWEEN USSR, TURKEY

LD051423Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS correspondent dispatch: "In the Interests of Cooperation"]

[Text] Ankara--In 1978 Soviet-Turkish relations have developed fruitfully in both the economic and the political spheres, Prof (A. Sh. Esmer), eminent Turkish public figure and politician, declared in an interview with a TASS correspondent.

The official visit by Turkish Prime Minister B. Ecevit to the USSR in June and his talks with the Soviet leaders were an important stage in this matter. The signing of the political document on the principles of neighborly and friendly cooperation between the USSR and the Turkish Republic was received with great satisfaction in Turkey. The agreement on demarcation of the continental shelf in the Black Sea between the USSR and Turkey, which was concluded during Ecevit's visit, (A. Sh. Esmer) pointed out, is also of great significance for Turkey. Trade and economic ties between the two countries entered a qualitatively new stage this year. Their further development will undoubtedly be promoted by the first long-term Soviet-Turkish trade agreement signed in Moscow for the period 1979-1981, which provides for a considerable increase in the volume of commodity turnover.

Touching on foreign policy questions, (A. Sh. Esmer) pointed out that the positions of the USSR and Turkey on a number of very important international problems, such as the relaxation of international tension, disarmament and the need to establish a just peace in the Near East, coincide in many ways or are close. In conclusion he voiced the hope that in the new year--1979--relations between the USSR and Turkey will continue to develop for the good of the peoples of both countries.

GENEVA INQUIRY ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN S. AFRICA OPENS

LD082142Y Moscow TASS in English 1744 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, January 8, TASS--A session of a special group of experts for inquiry into observance of human rights in southern Africa opened today in the Geneva Palace of Nations. The session exposes cruel police reprisals which marked the bloody events in Soweto in June, 1976, inhuman treatment of political prisoners, deaths in prisons of the racist regimes, forcible resettlement of population, the so-called "Bantustanisation" policy, violations of trade union rights. The working group will sum up the results of the international actions held in the past year in defence of human rights in southern Africa. A report of experts will be submitted to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

WESTERN PLANS FOR RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT SCORED

LD090020Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] Representatives of five Western countries--the United States, Britain, France, the FRG and Canada--intend to meet in London to work out another plan for a Rhodesian settlement. Various versions of the Anglo-American plan for a settlement of the Rhodesian question are known. These have been different in form, but in essence they have been the same, since they pursued the same aim: the preservation of imperialist positions in Rhodesia. Since not one of the Anglo-American versions was crowned with success, the imperialist circles decided to resort to the services of the five Western powers which, as is known, have already interfered in the solution of the Namibian problem. Bypassing the United Nations and contrary to its resolutions, over the past 2 years representatives of the United States, Britain, France, the FRG and Canada have made trips on more than one occasion to Pretoria ostensibly to search for ways toward a peaceful settlement in Namibia. So far this search has onlyled to the Pretoria authorities, with the blessing of the West, organizing pseudoelections in Namibia in December in order to create a semblance of legality for the puppet administration being set up there.

These same aims are being pursued, too, by imperialist collusion vis-a-vis Zimbabwe. The struggle against domination by a handful of whites to establish the authority of the African majority has assumed national proportions there. In a desperate attempt to retain their privileges, the Rhodesian racists have resorted to various kinds of maneuvers and the most cruel repressions.

So what kind of peaceful solution can be expected from those who strengthen the war machine of the white minority in Rhodesia? It can only be that the five Western countries will be trying, under the guise of talking peace, to disarm the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and make it accept Western conditions for a settlement in Rhodesia.

BLACK RHODESIANS REFUSING TO SERVE IN SMITH REGIME'S ARMY

LD081140Y Moscow TASS in English 1129 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Lusaka, January 8, TASS--The decision of the unlawful Smith regime on the forcible call up as of January 1, 1979, of Africans for military service meets with resolute resistance from the country's indigenous population. An overwhelming majority of the young people refuse to serve in the racialist army regarding the decision of the Salisbury authorities as a provocative attempt of the collapsing regime at splitting the unity of the Zimbabwe people and making Africans fight Africans.

The racialists are using crude force in an attempt to break the resistance of young people and make them put on the military uniform. Mass arrests have been made among school senior graders, students and employees. Many of them were brutally tortured. Schools are closing in the country. Fleeing the persecution of the racialists, young Africans join the guerrillas in order to take an active part in the struggle for their homeland's freedom.

SOVIETS SEND 'MATERIAL' AID TO ZIMBABWE PATIOTIC FRONT

LD082241Y Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 8, TASS--The Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee decided to give material assistance to the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front. Food and medicines will be shipped by a special Aeroflot flight for Zimbabwe refugees who suffered from barbarous raids of Rhodesian military on refugee camps in Zambia. On behalf of the Soviet public, the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee expresses profound confidence that despite all reprisals of the racist regime, the courageous Zimbabwe people supported by the international movement of solidarity will win over the forces of racism and imperialism.

MENGISTU LAUDS SOCIALIST COUNTRIES' AID TO ETHIOPIA

LD081717Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[TASS correspondent dispatch: "Profound Gratitude"]

[Text] Addis Ababa--True to great Lenin's behests and the principles of proletarian internationalism, from the first days of the Ethiopian revolution revolution the CPSU and the people and Government of the Soviet Union came out decisively on the side of socialist Ethiopia, Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC], has declared.

At a time when Ethiopia's territorial integrity and unity and its revolution were being threatened by imperialism and reaction, as well as by internal class enemies, the socialist community countries--primarily the Soviet Union--gave us comprehensive and unconditional support. This timely and decisive support will go down in the history of the development of relations between our two peoples and countries as a graphic example of the socialist community countries' loyalty to the cause of peace, democracy, progress, international detente and socialism.

Touching on the results of his recent visit to the Soviet Union and a number of other socialist countries, Mengistu Haile Mariam pointed to its great significance for strengthening relations between socialist Ethiopia and these states. He expressed special satisfaction with his meeting with L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Friendship and Cooperation Treaty signed in Moscow between the USSR and socialist Ethiopia marks an important new stage in Soviet-Ethiopian relations, the PMAC chairman emphasized.

Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed profound gratitude to L.I. Brezhnev for the support that the CPSU and the people and Government of the Soviet Union are giving socialist Ethiopia.

The PMAC chairman made this statement on being presented with the credentials of B. Ye. Kirnasovskiy, the USSR's new ambassador to Ethiopia.

PRC-BACKED 'SEPARATISTS' REPORTEDLY LAUNCH ATTACKS IN INDIA

LD081022Y Moscow TASS in English 0907 GMT 8 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, January 8, TASS--According to a report of the UNI agency, a group of separatists of the Naga tribe launched a number of armed attacks in the early hours of January 5 against several villages in Sibsagar area (Assam State) in the north-east of India. As a result of the bandit sortie, 50 peaceful villagers were killed and many were injured. The rebels burnt the villages, which they attacked.

As the Indian press reportedly pointed out, the separatist Naga movement trying to break away Nagaland from India is backed by China giving all-round aid to it. The rebels receive Chinese weapons and undergo training at special sabotage centres stationed in China's territory. Thus, China while declaring by a word of mouth for friendship with India is kindling separatist sentiments and is engaged in subversive activity against India.

PONOMAREV HAS MOSCOW TALKS WITH INDIAN CP SECRETARY

LD051153Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--A meeting took place on 25 December at the CPSU Central Committee between B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and P.A. Ulyanovskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and N.K. Krishnan, secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India [CPI].

Certain questions of the contemporary international situation and the international communist movement and other problems of mutual interest were examined during the conversation which took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere. The representative of both parties expressed a mutual desire for the further development of cooperation between the CPSU and the CPI and a readiness to come out in favor of the cohesion of the international communist movement in line with the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

A desire to develop further the traditional friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Indian peoples was emphasized.

CPSU GREETS AFGHAN PEOPLE'S PARTY ON 14TH ANNIVERSARY

LD081613Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 31, TASS--To the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee.

Dear comrades: "We are sending fraternal congratulations to the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the day it was founded.

"The Soviet communists with a deep satisfaction point out the revolutionary struggle which the democratic forces of the Afghan people began almost one and a half decades ago was crowned with the victorious April revolution of 1978 as a result of which the Afghan people under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan began building a society without oppression and exploitation.

"The qualitatively new character of relations between our two countries and our parties, the spirit of comradeship, sincere friendship and revolutionary solidarity are now embodied in the Soviet-Afghan Treaty of Peace, Neighborliness and Cooperation.

"We are wishing the party of the working people of Afghanistan and all Afghan people big successes in the realization of the constructive tasks of the April revolution."

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee

Afghan Foreign Minister on Anniversary

LD041610Y Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 4 Jan 79 LD

[Text]- Kabul, January 4, TASS--A meeting devoted to the 14th anniversary of the first congress of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan was held here. Speaking at the meeting Hafizollah Amin, member of the Political Bureau of the Party's Central Committee, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the DRA, stressed the party's leading role in carrying out the tasks set by the April revolution.

Touching on foreign policy problems, he said that Democratic Afghanistan is resolutely opposed to any forms of aggression and interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

The speaker highly assessed the relations of friendship and selfless cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. He stressed that thanks to this friendship and also the fraternal support of the Afghan people by the working class and the working people of the whole world the designs of imperialism against Afghanistan are falling through. The Great October Socialist Revolution, he said, was a source of inspiration for the working people of the whole world, including the Afghan working people. The Treaty of Friendship, Goodneighbourliness and Cooperation between the USSR and the DRA, which was signed recently in Moscow, is of great importance for the further development of relations between the peoples of our two countries and for strengthening peace.

U.S., PHILIPPINES END TREATY TALKS; FRICTIONS REMAIN

LD050218Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 4 Jan 79 LD

[(Viktor Yenikeyev) commentary]

[Text] In Manila, talks on the status of the United States military bases in the Philippines have ended after nearly 3 years. Here is a commentary by (Viktor Yenikeyev):

According to reports from the Philippine capital, the talks resulted in agreement to include a number of amendments in the security treaty binding the two countries since 1947. In particular, there is to be an insignificant reduction of the territory occupied by the bases and a so-called strengthening of the Philippine jurisdiction over them. One can hardly say, however, that these military talks eliminated the frictions and differences between the two sides, regarding the status of American military bases in the Philippines.

During the talks, the Philippines were unable to establish full sovereignty over the bases and eliminate the exterritorial rights that those United States bases have now. What's more, in accordance with the agreement reached, the United States will also preserve control over all military operations from these bases.

Actually, the main item on the agenda remains unsolved. That's why the amendments to the treaty are, in my view, only a facelift, aimed at covering up for awhile the differences between the two sides.

Apparently, the dissatisfaction of the people and Government of the Philippines with the agreements on such a burning issue will manifest itself sooner or later. After all, the exterritorial rights and unbridled control involved in the United States military presence in the country deprives the Philippines of their inalienable right to be the full masters on their own land and insults their feelings of national pride and dignity. The United States would hardly stand such things on American soil. Yet, strange as it may seem, many American statesmen and military figures do not regard American presence in the Philippines as an encroachment on that country's sovereignty. On the contrary, they are trying to convince the Filipinos that American military presence on the islands of the archipelago is in the interests of the country's national security and defends them from potential enemies.

Concern for a country's security is naturally a good thing, particularly when there is a need for that. But as far as I know, nobody is threatening the security of the Philippines. This has, incidentally, repeatedly been stated by that country's prominent statesmen and public figures and especially by President Marcos. This time, the United States managed to prolong its practically unbridled military presence in the Philippines. The talks are over but the differences remain.

Agreement Contradicts Philippine Policy

OW060654Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 0830 GMT 5 Jan 79 OW

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to observers, the recent agreement between the United States and the Philippines has brought about no substantial change in the status of U.S. bases in the Philippines.

This has also been confirmed by House of Representatives member Lester Wolff, head of the American official delegation. Before departing Manila, he said that the United States would, as in the past, maintain its position in Asia, including the Philippines. This statement makes it clear that the U.S. bases in Clark and Subic Bay will continue to play an important role in the Pentagon's Asian strategy.

These bases are linked to other American strongholds in this region, including Japan, Australia, and Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. Through this linkage, the United States can quickly deploy air force and navy units virtually to any point on the Asian Continent. The Pentagon did this very thing during the Vietnam war. Although that particular war is over, certain circles in the United States are still trying to use American bases to protect U.S. political and economic interests.

For instance, shortly before the new year, U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown disclosed a plan to deploy American troops to the Persian Gulf area and the Middle East in order to expeditiously cope with what he called chaos. When the defense secretary used the word "chaos," he apparently had in mind well-known developments in Iran which may incur losses to petroleum monopolies. Judging from all signs, we can conclude that the first step in this plan was the dispatch of the aircraft carrier Constellation and other warships of the American 7th Fleet from their Philippine base, as well as the Yodosuka-based aircraft carrier Midway, also of the 7th Fleet, to Iranian waters. In this way the United States uses its bases in the Philippines and Japan, disregarding the host country's sovereignity, to oppose a third country.

The Philippine concessions to the United States on the U.S. bases clearly contradict those important principles of Philippine foreign policy which seek to develop neighborly relations with other Southeast Asian countries. In this connection, it must be noted that the presence of foreign military bases is hardly compatible with pursuit of an independent, nonalined foreign policy. This was pointed out when the Philippine application for membership in the nonalined movement was considered during the Colombo summit conference of nonalined countries. Southeast Asian countries, most of which are nonalined, regard it as their task not to support a military presence by imperialist countries in this area, but to solve problems involved in the consolidation of peace and the attainment of social and economic progress.

INDONESIA BANS CHINESE-LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

LD051350Y Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 5 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Jakarta, January 5, TASS--The Government of Indonesia imposed a ban on the importation of Chinese-language publications into the country. Besides, all books, magazines and newspapers in Chinese with the exception of scientific publications used as manuals at higher learning establishments and state institutions will be withdrawn from circulation. As a special government resolution points out, the aim of the decision is to put an end to the influx of numerous propagandist materials into the country from the PRC.

INDOCHINA

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO COMMENT ON CAMBODIAN REBELLION

Formation of Revolutionary Council

LD081632Y Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, January 8, TASS--The KAMPUCHEAN NEWS AGENCY today announced the formation of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea which assumed complete power in the country.

Heng Samrin became chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council, Pensovan is deputy chairman of the council and is in charge of defence. Hun Sen is member of the council and is in charge of foreign affairs. Chea Sim is member of the council and is in charge of home affairs.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1720 GMT on 8 January adds: The declaration on the formation of Kampuchea's People's Revolutionary Council stresses that the Revolutionary Armed Forces are in control of the country's entire territory]

Heng Samrin Note to UN

LD081938Y Moscow TASS in English 1927 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 8, TASS--A message of Chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea Heng Samrin addressed to the chairman of the United Nations Security Council arrived here today. The message says that the Pol Pot regime ceased to exist and that the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea fully controls the territory of the country.

The message says that the convocation of a meeting of the Security Council at the demand of the clique of Pol Pot that is the so-called government which no longer exists would be a direct interference in Kampuchea's internal affairs and violation of the United Nations Charter.

Brezhnev Comments on Cambodia

LD091203Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 9 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today received in the Kremlin Palace Grunwald, vice president of U.S. TIME Incorporated and also Cave, managing editor of TIME, and Duncan, assistant managing editor. Comrade Brezhnev replied to a number of questions asked by the TIME editors concerning Soviet-U.S. relations and other international topics.

At the end of the talk Cave asked Leonid Ilich Brezhnev to give his own assessment of the present events in Kampuchea.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev replied that the Kampuchean people rose to struggle against a regime that they hated, against tyranny imposed on the Kampuchean people from outside. This is their right, and Soviet people support the just struggle of the Kampuchean people under the leadership of the National United Front for National Salvation. The Soviet Union also supports Kampuchea's People's Revolutionary Council, that is, the government supported by all strata of the population.

A pro-Beijing [Peking] regime--a model of a Chinese political system, so to speak--existed in Kampuchea. Mass annihilation of people in Kampuchea is none other than the Chinese Cultural Revolution in action on someone else's territory.

Chinese propaganda is currently commenting loudly about Vietnam's interference in Kampuchea's affairs. This is a crude attempt to distort the real state of affairs. This is an example of the anti-Vietnamese, chauvinistic direction of the policy pursued by the present leadership of China which, as is known, organizes provocations against Vietnam with regard to a number of other questions.

Zamyatin, chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department, was present at the talk.

TASS Reports Victory

LD081828Y Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 8, TASS--According to reports from KAMPUCHEAN NEWS AGENCY, the inhabitants of Phnom Penh warmly welcome the soldiers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the United Front of National Salvation of Kampuchea who, together with the population rising up in arms, had defeated the group of the reactionary troops of the clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary liberating Kampuchea's capital.

The puppet reactionary regime of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary had compromised itself not only before the Kampuchean people but also in the eyes of the world public. Mass executions and tortures, flagrant violation of all the rights and human dignity, forced labour, disruption of economy, arbitrariness and complete lack of rights--such are the tragic consequences of the rule of this clique.

A few days ago, LE FIGARO, a right-wing French newspaper, had this to say about the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime: The bloody regime is crumbling. Nobody will mourn a possible fall of one of the most repugnant regimes of our epoch. Genocide conducted by the Cambodian leaders against their own people had alienated them from the world public. At the same time the insane economic management had in the long run made the country bankrupt.

The United Front of National Salvation of Kampuchea uniting within its ranks revolutionaries and patriots and showing the only correct way to save the nation emerged as the true champion of the interests and aspirations of the Kampuchean people.

The aims of the United Front include creation of a truly peaceful independent, democratic, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchean building socialism. The United Front clearly stated that it stands for an independent foreign policy of peace, friendship, and non-alignment, ready to re-establish the goodneighborly relations with the neighbouring and other countries of South-East Asia.

The front's programme has rallied the masses of Kampuchean people around it. The Revolutionary Armed Forces grew daily and the liberated areas expanded. The patriots' offensive liberated Phnom Penh overthrowing the inhuman clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary.

Having forfeited the support of its own people, the puppet regime relied on the support of the Peking leaders who, incidentally, gave the regime's leaders an opportunity to evade popular wrath placing at their disposal, according to news agencies' reports, a Chinese plane to flee Phnom Penh.

The Central Committee of the United Front of National Salvation of Kampuchea called on the people to give every possible assistance to the Revolutionary Armed Forces. The front's programme--minimum, providing for the creation of organs of people's state power has begun to be implemented in the liberation areas. The Kampuchean people and the whole of progressive humanity welcomes the aims and the tasks of the Kampuchean revolution being implemented under the banners of the front, the only representative of the entire nation.

Democratic Aims of New Regime

LD081510Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Evgeniy Lukyanov]

[Text] Good morning, comrades. Foreign news agencies devote much attention to the liberation of the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation, [KNUFNS], supported by the population. It is being stressed that the KNUFNS Central Committee has appealed to the population of the country to unite and to deal decisive blows at the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary reactionary faction until it is completely defeated. It is also being noted that the appeal expresses firm confidence that the Kampuchean people will without fail build a peaceful, independent, democratic and nonalined Kampuchea proceeding along a path to socialism.

The minimum political program--the United Front's eight-point program--published in the liberated zones, AFP reports, will undoubtedly meet with the approval of the most varied strata of the country's population. The Kampuchean people, who for 3 years have been subjected to the most cruel repressions and genocide of the ex-ringleaders of the Phnom Penh regime, have at long last acquired in the liberated regions their rights in the political, economic and social spheres. Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and other leaders of the anti-people regime, who have fled the country, have turned Kampuchea, in the words of the American journal NEW TIMES, into hell. Its soil is soaked with the blood and tears of its people.

Another journal, New York TIMES magazine, quotes a woman, (Hun Sot), who had earlier fled the country, as saying that Kampucheans were, in fact, turned into working cattle. They were made to work from morning till late in the evening. It was forbidden to make food or possess produce, because food was being distributed. The population received no clothes or shoes. Child labor--they worked alongside adults--was widely used.

As the French paper LE FIGARO noted, no one will shed tears over the end of this regime--one of the most monstrous regimes of our epoch.

In the meantime, the fall of the antipeople, puppet regime of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary has given rise to an explosion of anger among the Beijing [Peking] leadership. Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping] first deputy premier of the PRC State Council, hypocritically accused Vietnam of aggression against Kampuchea. Fanning this lie, the Beijing leaders in the meantime are continuing to escalate tension along the border with Socialist Vietnam. This is borne out by a statement, published last Sunday, by Vietnam's Foreign Ministry spokesman, which notes a significant increase in the numerical strength of the Chinese troops and military equipment in the region of the Vietnamese-Chinese border. The SRV Government, stresses the document, demanded Beijing halt the provocative and criminal actions.

Almasov Commentary

LD082142Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Lev Almasov commentary]

[Text] There has been worldwide satisfaction at the news that Phnom Penh has been liberated and the reactionary dictatorship of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary has fallen. The Kampuchean capital was liberated by the armed forces of the country's United National Salvation Front supported by the city's inhabitants. At the same time the key sea port of Kompong Som in the country's southwest was liberated, too. Through Kompong Som the Beijing [Peking] leadership has supplied arms for its stooges in Phnom Penh. The fate of those stooges Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, is unknown. According to some news agency reports they were taken out of the country to Beijing while the campaign of vicious slanders is now being waged against Kampuchea's United National Salvation Front.

Observers commenting on the events in Kampuchea note that the front scored its victory quickly and with relatively small armed forces. Whereas in the initial period of the popular uprising there was bitter fighting, now the troops of the Phnom Penh group are surrendering, almost without resistance. The Phnom Penh army is demoralized and entire units with arms are now taking the side of the liberation forces.

The whole people rose up against the antipopular regime. The regime failed because of the crimes it had committed. The policy of genocide cost the lives of 2 million Kampucheans, nearly one-third of the country's population. Such atrocities were unparalleled in history. Two days before Phnom Penh's liberation the French newspaper LE FIGARO stressed quite justly that the bloody Phnom Penh regime was collapsing and that nobody would have tears for the end of that regime, one of the most horrible ones of our time.

The genocide that the Khmer rulers committed against their own people has been condemned by the world public. Currently the liberation forces, supported by the population, are continuing their offensive in a western direction, (?to act) to liberate without delay the rest of the country from the remanants of the reactionary forces. The Central Committee of Kampuchea's United National Salvation Front has urged the people to build a democratic, peaceful Kampuchea, proceeding along the road to socialism.

In the country's liberated areas the front's political program setting the immediate tasks has been published. The program points out that the new government will provide everybody with food, clothing and housing. People's committees will be set up to (?attend) to all the issues of government. The forced removal of townspeople to rural areas is cancelled. All citizens have received the right to live wherever they choose and to migrate. All children of school age will study. Every person will be able to practise his own religion. The rights of the national minorities will be guaranteed (?all) folk customs and traditions respected.

In foreign policy Kampuchea's United National Salvation Front stands for the restoration of friendship and cooperation with the countries of Southeast Asia and for conducting a policy based on the principles of peaceful coexistence with all countries. This program has extensive support and understanding in Asia and the whole world.

Shchedrov Commentary

LD082123Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Ivan Shchedrov commentary]

[Text] As reported today by the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation [KNUFNS] radio station, people's power has been established in all 19 provinces of Kampuchea. This is the culmination of an important stage of the national liberation movement of the brave, 9 million-strong people of this ancient country, their struggle for liberty and independence, for peace, and for the right to be masters of their own fate.

In the spring of 1975, like all the other peoples of Indochina, Kampuchean people won freedom and independence. A peaceful way opened up for the country's development. However, the antipeople group of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary usurped power and turned the country into a military brigehead for provocations against neighboring countries, primarily against Vietnam, which bore the main burden of the war against the American imperialists. Here in Kampuchea, experiments were carried out in setting up a new barracks-style communism.

In this situation a resistance movement was born and grew on the basis of which the KNUFNS was formed on 2 December last year. In its program documents its main tasks were clearly set out: The liquidation of the antipeople regime, the restoration of the democratic and revolutionary gains of the people, rejection of the policy of military provocations. This appeal found a wide response among millions of Kampucheans. Now, in a short period, a mere 5 or 6 weeks, by means of local uprisings and active offensive operations by the Revolutionary Armed Forces, power has passed into the hands of the legitimate representative of the people, the KNUFNS.

The day before yesterday four Chinese naval vessels tried to get through to the Kampuchean port of Kompong Som with ammunition and weapons, but they were forced to go back home because the port and town has been liberated by the patriots. In order to save Pol Pot, Ieng Sary and their ilk, Chinese aircraft were used. It is not known where they were taken, whether to Peking or into the jungle. At dawn this morning, in order to escape pursuit by advance units of the revolutionary army, about 100 Chinese military advisors crossed the Kampuchean-Thailand frontier. A little later more than 600 more Chinese followed them.

One should note yet another factor: In the liberated regions first of all, and now throughout the country, the inhabitants are being given the right--and are making use of the right--to return to their own towns and villages, to their own families. In the local areas the reactionary-repressive apparatus is being done away with and people's committees are being set up. In the liberated regions schools are being opened for the first time in 3 and a half years.

I would like to recall now that in the difficult days of the struggle against the American interventionists and in the very hard times of recent years, when the brave people of Kampuchea were waging their struggle against the pro-Beijing [PRC-Peking], antipeople group of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, Soviet people, faithful to their international duty, were on the side of the Kampuchean people, and in the new situation this friendship will develop and grow stronger.

Moscow Mandarin on Situation

OW090017Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 8 Jan 79 OW

[Mulatov commentary: "Kampuchean Patriots' Victory and PRC Leading Clique's Reaction"]

[Text] Dear listeners: The Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation [KNUFNS] has the situation in Kampuchea well under control, according to an announcement by the front's radio on 8 January.

On 7 January, the front liberated Phnom Penh, the capital of Kampuchea. With popular support, the front's armed forces have control of virtually all of Kampuchea. The minimum political program proclaimed a few days ago by the KNUFNS Central Committee has won support from the Kampuchean people.

How could the Kampuchean revolutionary, patriotic forces score such a great military and political success in such a short time? How can we explain this success? It can be explicitly attributed to the heroic struggle carried out by the Kampuchean people against the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary dictatorship. However, never before have Chinese newspapers and journals mentioned the following fact: During the time it ruled Kampuchea, the overthrown Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique suppressed the Kampuchean people with violent tactics, such as forced labor and other illegal measures. They cruelly suppressed all politically alien elements and severely tortured the national intellectuals. They committed these crimes under the influence of the highly reactionary doctrine of Mao Zedong [Mao Tse-tung].

In pursuit of a policy of genocide, the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique murdered more than 1 million people in Kampuchea. This violence drove all patriots in Kampuchea to take up arms and struggle against the clique. It forced the Revolutionary Armed Forces and people to join forces to completely defeat that reactionary Kampuchean clique.

The Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique not only relied on domestic dictatorial rule but also on aid, including military aid, from their supporters in Beijing [Peiking] to suppress the Kampuchean people. This is a fact known to all. This is the reason why this decisive military and political victory won by the Kampuchean revolutionary and patriotic forces has so angered and irritated Beijing's leading clique. This angry reaction has also surprised no one. Beijing's leaders hate to see the prospect of stability and normalization that has unfolded in Kampuchea following the collapse of that unpopular regime. They deliberately concocted the myth of SRV aggression against Kampuchea, refusing to recognize political realities. Besides, they have deployed large numbers of troops and weapons along the Vietnam-China border, thus threatening the SRV's security and sovereignty. The SRV Foreign Ministry has warned the Chinese authorities against such provocations, holding them responsible for any ensuing consequences. Such provocations have increased tensions in Southeast Asia and therefore are not in the interests of the region's people, including the Chinese people.

Indian CP, Japanese on Victory

LD081942Y Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, January 8, TASS--Together with all progressive public opinion of the world the Indian communists hail the victory of the Kampuchean people led by the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation over the anti-popular regime of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, it was pointed out in a TASS interview by Bhupesh Gupta, secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India.

It is an open secret that the aggressive military acts against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam were inspired, financed and correspondingly prepared by Peking, which is continuing its policy of hegemonism and expansionism.

The Chinese leaders are fully responsible for the aggravation of tension in Indochina. The victory of the revolutionary forces in Kampuchea will facilitate the restoration of stability in the region, and, at the same time, will pave the way to the restoration of the traditional friendly relations between the Vietnamese and the Kampuchean peoples, Bhupesh Gupta said.

Tokyo, January 8, TASS--Outlining the political program of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation the newspaper YOMIURI stresses that concrete humane steps were received with approval by the population of the liberated areas, which was deprived of elementary human rights under the anti-popular Pol-Pot regime. The program, the newspaper points out, provides for the setting up of people's committees in the villages. Special attention is being called to the organization of agricultural and industrial production with a view to providing the people with food and housing, to helping the victims of the former regime, providing free-of-charge meals to the old folk, sick people and orphans.

The Japanese press underscores the calls of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation to fight for the complete overthrow of the Pol Pot regime, to restore the national economy, re-establish the systems of education, public health and social insurace, which had been liquidated by the anti-popular regime.

PRC MILITARY BUILDUP ALONG VIETNAMESE BORDER REPORTED

LD081436Y Moscow TASS in English 1424 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

["Peking's Provocative Activities"--TASS headline]

[Excerpt] New York, January 8, TASS--The ASSOCIATED PRESS, referring to a statement by U.S. administration officials, reports that China is building up its forces on the border with Vietnam. According to the news agency, Peking has concentrated in the area a large quantity of military materiel, including aircraft and tanks. The official spokesmen said that they would not be able to state with confidence whether these military preparations represent a simple "demonstration of force" or whether there is a real danger of China invading Vietnam, reports the ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Reports to the effect that China has begun a massive redeployment of forces from the provinces in the vicinity of the Taiwan Strait to other areas of the country including those near the border with Vietnam, were confirmed by head of the U.S. Liaison Group in Peking Leonard Woodcock in an interview to newspaper LOS ANGELES TIMES. Newspaper WASHINGTON POST, with reference to intelligence data, also notes that during the recent days China sent large military contingents to the Vietnamese border.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes that at present China has already concentrated half a million soldiers in the provinces Yunnan and Kwangsi. The newspaper reminds that head of the Chief Political Department of the Army Wei Guoqing [Wei Kuo-ching] has recently made an inspection tour of southern regions of the country in order to determine China's readiness for war.

Well-informed political news analysts and military specialists are of the view that China's new aggressiveness is encouraged by the country's new relations with the United States, writes CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. With each new stage in the consolidation of these relations the situation grows more dangerous, warns the newspaper.

China's position was steadily becoming more rigid after the spring visit to Peking of Zbigniew Brzezinski, assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs, writes CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR.

Several days after the departure of Brzezinski, Peking embarked on a propaganda campaign against Vietnam, sending to the Vietnamese coast its ship and confirming once again its claims to the Spratly Islands.

At present, in connection with the normalisation of relations, the newspaper stresses, there arises an important question as to whether China's new relations with Washington may not stimulate Peking to opt for a war in Southeast Asia?

Practice shows, writes Baltimore SUN that in recent years Peking's leaders had, as a rule, ignored the warnings of commonsense, rationality and cautiousness. The newspaper arrives at the conclusion that irrational actions may be expected from Peking leaders in the future and that the primary object for Peking's military provocations will most likely be the peoples of Southeast Asia.

KOSOLAPOV DISCUSSES SOLIDARITY WITH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE

LD091316Y Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 9 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] Moscow, January 9, TASS--"The policy of good-neighbourhood and cooperation, pursued by Vietnam, makes a weighty contribution to the consolidation of peace and social progress on earth" Richard Kosolapov, the editor in chief of the magazine "KOMMUNIST" told a TASS correspondent. He heads the Soviet delegation which will attend the Hanoi meeting of the Presidium of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organization next week.

Soviet opinion, Kosolapov said, welcomes the initiative of the solidarity organization to hold the meeting in the capital of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. "The forthcoming meeting of distinguished leaders of the anti-imperialist solidarity movement, delegations of national liberation movements and of countries of the socialist community will be another demonstration of solidarity with Vietnam, which upheld independence in the struggle against the reactionary forces", he said.

Linked by friendship and all-round cooperation, Kosolapov said, the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam come out as a united front on the world arena. "Our peoples regard Leonid Brezhnev's recent meetings with the SRV leaders Le Duan and Pham Van Dong and the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation as another historic stage of the development of the relations between the two countries.

"Socialist construction in Vietnam and the strengthening of peace in Southeast Asia is hampered by Beijing's [Peking's] hegemonistic policy, Kosolapov said. The fall of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary puppet regime, which was used for aggressive actions against neighbouring Vietnam, infuriated the ruling top clique of China. These days Beijing propaganda unleashed a campaign of rude slander against the United Front of National Salvation of Kampuchea. Developments in that region, however, show that the enemies of Vietnam and of the patriotic forces of Kampuchea will not be able to shake the courage of the patriots, to mislead world opinion".

PRESS COMMENT ON CUBA'S LIBERATION ANNIVERSARY

IZVESTIYA Notes Cuba's Pride

LD081651Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent V. Vernikov dispatch: "Along the Road of Achievements"]

[Excerpt] Havana--Twenty years ago the Soviet Union and other socialist countries stretched out their reliable helping hand to fraternal Cuba. Oil, raw materials, equipment, foodstuffs, loans, tens of thousands of specialists of the most diverse professions, and much else--it is impossible to enumerate everything--helped the new state not only to hold their own but also to achieve everything in which today both the Cubans and all the friends of the Island of Freedom take pride. "Our friendship and our closeness," said Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, addressing a meeting during his visit to Cuba, "are an expression of the socialist nature of our countries and a living embodiment of the lofty principles of socialist internationalism."

Cuba, at the decisive turning point in its history, was aware of the mighty strength of socialist internationalism in all its fullness and reality. It can boldly be said that for all the Cuban people these two words are the living flesh of their existence. Educated by their Communist Party, the working people of Cuba are faithfully following the principles of internationalism and are giving assistance and support to the young independent states of Africa. This takes the form not only of the blood shed for the just cause by Cuban internationalist fighters, but also of the sweat of thousands of Cubans who are building schools, hospitals and roads, the sleepless nights of physicians and the busy daily round of engineers, technicians, teachers and agronomists.

The Cuban revolution is only 20 years old. But how the world has changed in this time! It can undoubtedly be asserted that fraternal Cuba has made its own weighty contribution to these changes which are favorable for the whole socialist community. It has made this contribution though its prestige, its achievements in building a new life, through its example for other peoples struggling for freedom and independence and through its principled foreign policy.

In the days preceding the anniversary holiday all the Cuban newspapers and the radio and television have reported new labor victories in the most diverse sectors. From the mosaic of diverse facts and names an integral picture of creative activity emerges.

The peaceful labor in which the Cuban people are exclusively engaged is yielding increasingly remarkable fruit with each passing day. What has been created would, 20 years ago, have been taken as an alluring daydream. But the prospects for the future are even more alluring and real.

Right now the days are hot in Cuba. And not simply because the mercury in the thermometer has climbed to the 30-degree mark--the winter here is like that. The temperature at which the socialist competition to greet the 20th anniversary of the revolution's victory in a fitting manner is running is also high. The Cubans are confidently embarking upon the third decade of their free life with their heads proudly erect.

Revolution Enhanced Cuba's Influence

LD081653Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jan 79 p 3 LD

[M. Zubatkin article: "Rhythm of Creation"]

[Excerpt] Not only did the revolution radically change the Cubans' life, it increased incomparably Cuba's international prestige and its role and influence in the world arena.

Forming part of the socialist community and consistently implementing a foreign policy based on Marxist-Leninist principles, socialist Cuba is today an important factor in world policy which must be reckoned with by those who are trying to retard mankind's progressive movement toward freedom and social progress. The selfless assistance of Cuba, as well as the other socialist states, above all the Soviet Union, for the peoples of Angola, Ethiopia and other African countries in their struggle against imperialism and racism is an exmaple of genuine internationalism. The successful holding of the 11th World Festival of Youth and Students in Havana was an acknowledgement of the international prestige of revolutionary Cuba and of its role in the struggle against imperialism.

The Cuban revolution, which is marking its 20th anniversary today, has constantly experienced fraternal assistance and support from the motherland of October, the first workers' and peasants' state. This was spoken of brilliantly by Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, at the 25th CPSU Congress: "Throughout the history of international relations, which for thousands of years were guided by egoism and force, there have never been such fraternal relations between a mighty country and a small country. Only socialism makes such relations between peoples possible." These words contain the gratitude of the people of America's first socialist country to the peoples of the first socialist country.

And today, marking together with our Cuban brothers their great and bright holiday, Soviet people cordially wish Cuba new achievements on the path of building socialism.

Historic Achievements

LD0817O5Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Jan 79 p 3 LD

[A. Moiseyev article: "The Light of the Beacon of Freedom"]

[Excerpt] The strength of the Cuban revolution is that it combined a nationwide movement for the freedom and renewal of Cuba with the great Marxist-Leninist teaching and armed itself with the rich experience of other peoples' revolutionary struggle. The invincibility of the Cuban revolution lies in its internationalism and close cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries.

The republic's successes are truly majestic. In a comparatively short time a backward agrarian country--effectively a colonial appendage of the United States--has been transformed into an independent state with rapidly developing industry and agriculture. Electricity production has more than trebled and steel production has increased twelvefold. All Cubans have received the right to work, and the right to free education and medical services and unemployment has been eliminated. Cuba is the only country of universal literacy in Latin America.

The decisions of the First Communist Party of Cuba Congress held in December 1975 have been of great importance in the country's development.

The country is also celebrating the glorious anniversary with considerable achievements in the international arena. It now has official diplomatic relations with 104 states. The prestige of the Island of Freedom is higher than ever today. The republic has earned this through its independent peace policy and international aid to the peoples struggling for freedom and independence.

"In terms of area and population size Cuba is not a large country," L.I. Brezhnev said at a rally in Havana during his visit to the Island of Freedom. "However, it occupies a great and I would say outstanding place in contemporary international life. It is warmly loved by its friends, hated by its enemies and millions and millions of people watch its development with a feeling of sympathy and solidarity." The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries occupy a leading place among the loyal friends of the Cuban revolution.

"The Cuban revolution developed under exceptionally hard conditions," Fidel Castro noted at the 14th Congress of Cuban Working People's Trade Union Center held recently in Havana. "But we would have had to make considerably greater sacrifices if international solidarity had not been on our side and if we had not relied on the support of the socialist communist countries and primarily the Soviet Union. The assistance of the Soviet Union has been of tremendous importance for the implementation of our plans for socialist economic development, for our country's defense and for the preservation of its independence and revolutionary gains." At present more than 200 industrial enterprises embracing practically every sector of the republic's economy are being constructed or modernized in Cuba with technical assistance from the Soviet Union. One of them has been developed near the city of Moa. A plant for the production of nickel concentrate whose commissioning is planned for December 1980 is being constructed there with assistance from the USSR.

The republic has participated actively in CEMA's activity since July 1972. Its multifaceted relations with the fraternal socialist countries make it possible for Cuba to make wider and more comprehensive use of its resources, to coordinate and fulfill its national economic plans more successfully and to take advantage of the latest achievements of the scientific and technical revolution.

On these festive, holiday days Cuba's people are summing up the result of their achievements in the 20 heroic years of the revolution which has transformed the country into a genuine "free American territory." Socialist Cuba is firmly and confidently traveling the path chosen by its people.

Ustinov Greetings

LD081623Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Jan 79 p 1 LD

[Text] To Army General Comrade Raul Castro Ruz, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba:

Esteemed Comrade Minister:

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own account I cordially congratulate you and Cuban servicemen on the glorious jubilee--the 20th anniversary of Cuba's liberation day. Soviet servicemen, together with the whole Soviet people, are sincerely glad at the successes achieved by the Cuban working people in developing the economy, science and culture and in strengthening the Revolutionary Armed Forces. We note with deep satisfaction that relations of mutual trust, fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between our peoples and armies are continuing to develop successfully for the sake of the cause of peace and socialism. I wish you, Comrade Minister, and the personnel of the Revolutionary Armed Forces new achievements in fulfilling the tasks set by the First Communist Party of Cuba Congress in further strengthening your motherland's defense capability.

With communist greetings,

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR defense minister.

GEORGIAN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY REPLACED

LD081209Y Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 20 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] GRUZINFORM--The 14th Georgian CP Central Committee plenum was held on 19 December. Invited to it were gorkom and raykom first secretaries, secretaries of party committees with raykom status, chairmen of gorispolkoms and rayispolkoms, ministers, chairmen of Georgian state committees, and chiefs of republic departments and central establishments not belonging to the Central Committee or Georgian CP Auditing Commission. The plenum examined an organizational question. In connection with his transfer to other work the plenum released Comrade V.M. Siradze from his duties as secretary and member of the Bureau of the Georgian CP Central Committee. Comrade G.N. Enukidze was elected secretary and member of the Bureau of the Georgian CP Central Committee.

PARTY, STATE HAIL BELORUSSIA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

LD011200Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0030 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Today is the 60th anniversary of the Belorussian SSR. The greetings of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet and the USSR Council of Ministers, which were read at a festive session in Minsk devoted to the anniversary, highly appraise the republic's achievements. Its economic potential has grown 200 times over the years of Soviet power.

PERSONNEL CHANGES AT PRIMORSKIY KRAYKOM REPORTED

OW061050Y Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0935 GMT 5 Jan 79 OW

[Excerpts] The 13th plenum of the Primorskiy Kraykom was held 5 January to discuss questions related to the 18th Primorskiy Kray conference and organizational matters. Because Comrade Malkov was elected as first secretary of the Magadan Obkom, the plenum released him from duties as second secretary and Bureau member of the Primorskiy Kraykom. The plenum elected Comrade Gagarov, who has worked as first secretary of the Vladivostok Gorkom, as second secretary of the kraykom. The plenum elected Comrade Sharin, first secretary of the Vladivostok Gorkom, as a member of the Primorskiy Kraykom Bureau. The plenum released Balagurov from duties of the chief of the industry department of the kraykom in connection with his transfer to other work and confirmed Comrade Volyntsev as chief of this department. In connection with Comrade Sharin being elected as first secretary of the Vladivostok Grokom, the plenum released him from duties as chief of a kraykom department and confirmed Comrade Bespalov as chief of this department.

BRIEFS

LENINSKIY RAYKOM PLENUM--A plenum of the Leninskiy Raykom of Vladivostok has released Besapalov from his duties of first secretary and Bureau member of the Leninskiy Raykom in connection with his election as chief of a department of the Primorskiy Kraykom. Zubritskiy, former chairman of the Leninskiy Rayispolkom, was elected first secretary of the Leninskiy Raykom. Barsukov was released from duties as second secretary of the raykom in connection with his transfer to other work. Rybakov was elected as second secretary and Bureau member of the Leninskiy Raykom. Rybakov formerly worked as second secretary of the Primorskiy Kray Komsomol Committee. Kraykom First Secretary Lomakin participated in the work of the plenum. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0935 GMT 5 Jan 79 OW]

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

BREZHNEV SENDS GREETINGS TO VOSTOCHNYY PORT WORKERS

LD072300Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 7 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent greetings to the builders, fitters, planners and all involved in the construction of the first stage of Vostochnyy Port: The telegram says:

Dear comrades:

It was with great satisfaction that the CPSU Central Committee learned of the commissioning of the unique automated coal transshipment complex with a 5 million-ton annual capacity and the completion thereby of the first stage of the deepwater, mechanized Vostochnyy Port, which is one of the largest in the country. I sincerely congratulate you on this outstanding triumph of labor.

The commissioning of the first stage of Vostochnyy Port considerably improves the transport links of the northeastern areas and creates favorable conditions for the further development of the country's foreign economic links. It is gratifying to note that the port is being built in an integrated manner and that together with the productive capacities, residential homes and installations for social and consumer service purposes have been built. It is important that port workers considerably reduce the normative timespans for mastering the transshipment complexes which were put into service earlier in the port. These achievements are the result of the selfless and highly productive labor of workers, engineering and technical staff and office employees in implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress. They are also the result of extensive and widespread socialist competition for the fulfillment ahead of schedule of the tasks of the first 3 years of the 10th 5-Year Plan, and of the large amount of organizational and mass-political work by party, soviet and Komsomol organizations.

I am confident that the large collective of builders and operating workers of Vostochnyy Port will do everything possible to bring the new Ugolnyy Rayon [coal area] complex of the port up to the rated capacity in a very short time.

I wish you, dear comrades, further successes in work, good health and personal happiness.

BRIEFS

COPPER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT--A feasibility study has been started on the development of the Udokan copper deposit in Siberia. The copper area consists of a circular area, 100 km in diameter, in which Udokan is one of the 10 copper deposits prospected. The copper, since it is deposited in surface layers, will be mined by the opencast method. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD]

KHABAROVSK-KIEV FLIGHTS--Aircraft land or take off from Khabarovsk Airport every 3 minutes. An Il-62m passenger aircraft has opened the nonstop Khabarovsk-Kiev route, the 45th route from Khabarovsk. The length of the route is 7,170 kilometers and the flight will take 9 hours 15 minutes. Next year it is planned to link Khabarovsk with Simferopol by direct flights. The Far Eastern Aeroflot Administration will carry nearly 4 million passengers this year. [Khabarovsk Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 28 Dec 79 OW]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CSA ON PROGRESS OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY REPAIRS

LD081918Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Text] More than 2 million tractors, 81 percent of the total fleet, have already been prepared to go out into the fields of the country's farms. These figures are given in the USSR Central Statistical Administration report on the progress of agricultural machinery repairs.

In the last week the rate of work at farm and selkhozetkhnika workshops has increased considerably, and certain shortcomings observed in autumn are being eliminated quickly. Machinery preparation is particularly successful in Georgia and the other Transcaucasian republics. Much work has been accomplished in Krasnodarskiy Kray, Kemerovskaya and Tulskaya oblasts, where competition for timely and high quality preparations for fieldwork have been initiated. To date, not only has repair of all tilling and mowing machinery been completed here, but also 70 percent of all grain combines have been repaired.

However, the rate of machinery repair is still low in Pskovskaya, Kemerovskaya, Orlovskaya, Chelyabinskaya and certain other oblasts. This work is being held up partly because of lack of spare parts. Industry has not supplied rural areas with sufficient quantities of 44 kinds of parts. In particular, the Odessa soil-tilling machinery works, the USSR Ministry of agriculture informed us, is letting farmers down.

Further Report

LD082300Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 8 Jan 79 LD

[Summary] In connection with today's USSR Central Statistical Administration report on machinery repairs, Aleksandr Ruvinskiy notes that due to the unfavorable autumn and drawn-out fieldwork, agricultural machinery repairs began late in most areas. In October and November there were certain backlogs, but now there is a marked improvement. By the beginning of January, 81 percent of tractors, 87 percent of plows and 84 percent of cultivators were ready. This has made it possible to have all equipment ready on time. In all, about 150 million hectares are to be sown with various crops in the 2 spring months. Machine operators have begun overhauling combines, and there are somewhat more combines ready than there were at the beginning of last January.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 5-7 JAN

LD080606/LD0700224/LD080700 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1900 GMT on 5 January reports that there is little moisture for snow-retention work in Azerbaijan. Less land there is being sown to grain crops in connection with the intensive development and increasing specialization of viticulture. Winter grain crops have been sown on 500,000 hectares. The strains used, according to the radio, will produce high yields and they are in good condition. Shoots have appeared almost everywhere and crops are being watered.

Moscow Radio at 1100 GMT on 6 January reports that in Ashkhabadskaya Oblast the Lenin and Sverdlov kolkhozes are the first in Turkmenia to take potato-sowing machines out into the country. The area to be sown to potatoes in the republic is extended to cover 1,700 hectares in specialized farms and the harvest will be obtained in May.

The same broadcast also reports that the overhauling of sowing and soil cultivating equipment has been completed by machine operators of Bavlinskiy Rayon in Tatarskaya ASSR. Mechanized depots have been created throughout the republic to overhaul agricultural equipment. The goal is to make all sowing equipment ready by 15 January and to make all tractors ready by 1 March.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1100 GMT on 6 January informs its listeners that a total of 150 new types of agricultural crops are being put to use this year on kolkhoz and sovkhoz land. Commentator Aleksandr Ruvinskiy reports: Renovation of crop types is one of the essential reserves in increasing harvest yield, and is one of the ways in which more products can be obtained from the same area of land. This is a problem on which scientists and practical workers and engaged jointly. In recent years extensive use has been made of winter types of wheat which have been reared under the guidance of Academician Vasiliy Nikolayevich Remislov. Thanks to use of the so-called Mironov types, the grain crop harvest has been increased by tens of millions of tons throughout the country. At the moment, the institute headed by Vasiliy Nikolayevich is preparing to hand over to farms new types of wheat with a potential yield of 80 to 90 quintals per hectare.

The types of grain to be used this year are outstanding in such valuable qualities as hardiness in winter. This makes it possible to extend the growing of winter crops to more northerly regions, to use lands in the Non-Chernozem Zone more effectively, as well as that of the Urals, Siberia and Kazakhstan.

Scientists have been able to rear a completely new type of grain crop, which did not exist in nature before. This is a perennial wheat capable of giving a harvest yield over a period of 3 years from one sowing. Perfection of such types and an increase in their productivity is at present in progress. A type of grain and fodder-producing wheat is already being used in the Belgorodskaya and Gorkovskaya oblasts. This spring it is to be sown on some fields in the Non-Chernozem Zone. This wheat, after it has been reaped, is able during the season to produce up to three harvests of green fodder or hay, and it contains as much albumen as the grain.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1200 GMT on 6 January reports that snow-retention work has been carried out on almost 1 million hectares in Saratovskaya Oblast.

The radio reports at 0200 GMT on 7 January that the plan for the storage of spring grain crops has been completed in most USSR republics. The work has been organized well on farms in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Moldavia; in Rostovskaya and Orenburgskaya oblasts, and in Krasnodarskiy and Stavropolskiy krays.

The radio adds that Kuybyshevskaya Oblast agricultural workers have been working on snow retention. Snow retention work has been carried out on several million hectares of Kazakhstan virgin lands. Special mechanized units have been created in Kazakhstan to work on snow plowing. About 600,000 tractors; 300,000 plows; nearly half of the sowing and cultivator equipment and many harvesting machines require overhauling, mainly due to the weather conditions in a number of regions last year, particularly at harvesting time, leading to increased wear and tear on equipment. In order to successfully cope with the tasks, progressive methods of overhauling equipment are being used. Most collectives at Ukrainian farms are successfully carrying out the repair of machinery. Particularly fine work is being done by machine operators in Donetskaya, Odesskaya and Krymskaya oblasts, where all land tilling equipment is now ready.

The same broadcast further reports that schools for improving qualifications and obtaining extensive agrotechnical knowledge have begun operating. In Belorussia training centers have been set up in all regions and for the first time studies have been organized in two stages. To start with, tractor drivers, truck drivers and combine operators go through a theoretical training course and then proceed to foremen-craftsmen for practical training. After this they take an examination administered by the qualification commission. A total of 50,000 agricultural workers of Belorussia will have improved their qualifications by this spring.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0205 GMT on 7 January reports that machine operators of Kurganskaya Oblast are taking special wide-sweeping machinery into the fields. These machines can process 300 hectares of snow-covered virgin lands per shift. Snow retention has been carried out on 300,000 hectares in the oblast.

UZBEKISTAN OVERFULFILLS 1978 AGRICULTURAL SALES PLAN

LD080927Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "Uzbekistan's Big Cotton Harvest"]

[Text] Implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum, the agricultural workers of the Uzbek SSR have secured a major labor victory--they have overfulfilled the plan for the sale of raw cotton to the state and also the sales plan for all other produce from arable farming and livestock-raising.

Some 5.51 million tons of raw cotton have arrived at the procurement centers, including 295,000 tons of valuable fine-fiber strains of cotton. The state has been sold 1,404,000 tons of vegetables, 597,000 tons of melons, 357,000 tons of grapes, 262,000 tons of fruit, 120,000 tons of potatoes and 29,000 tons of silk cocoons.

The republic's stockmen have insured the sale of 220,000 tons of livestock and poultry, 614,000 tons of milk, 725,000,000 eggs and 25,000 tons of wool to the state.

The plan for the delivery of vegetables, melons and grapes to cities and industrial centers has been overfulfilled.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES STRESSES SCIENCE'S ROLE IN AGRICULTURE

LD081313Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 78 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "For the Fields and Livestock Units"]

[Text] The USSR Academy of Sciences General Assembly, which discussed at its session the tasks of Soviet science in implementing the comprehensive program for the further development of agriculture elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum, appeals to all workers in scientific institutions of the USSR Academy of Sciences and union republic Academies of Sciences and VUZ'es and to scientists and designers in ministry and department institutes and planning organizations to increase their concrete contribution to this nationwide [obshchenarodnyy] cause and concentrate their efforts on working out pressing problems of intensifying agricultural production, increasing its efficiency, and narrowing the gap between material, cultural and consumer living conditions in city and countryside.

To comprehensively and dynamically develop and significantly increase the efficiency of kolkhoz and sovkhoz production and to provide the country with reliable supplies of foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials with the aim of further improving the people's material living standard is the main, key task of the agrarian sector of the economy. A tremendous role here belongs to science. Soviet scientists are doing a great deal to speed up scientific, technical and social progress in agriculture. But the new, more crucial tasks facing agriculture demand from scientists with the most diverse specialties still more active participation and a more weighty contribution to the successful resolution of the diverse tasks of rural development.

It is the duty of scientific and technical workers to constantly enrich practice with new discoveries and achievements and to help in every way through their research in increasing production of grain, meat and other products and in making the development of all agricultural production sectors more stable and dynamic. Scientists of all specialties must constantly study and find potential for transferring scientific and technical achievements from their spheres to agriculture. In order to resolve major scientific and technical agrarian problems, it is necessary to elaborate them more comprehensively and make wider use of joint, intersectoral targeted research programs. This would promote the proportional development of all sectors of the country's agro-industrial complex.

Great tasks lie ahead for fundamental science, whose achievements have always been the base, the foundation for the effective development of agricultural research.

Scientists must focus considerably more attention on the sphere of molecular-cytogenetic, physiological, biochemical and other research with a view to creating sophisticated methods of cultivating more highly productive varieties, breeds and hybrids of plants and animals, well adapted to the conditions of industrial technologies and having high resistance to any unfavorable factors. It is important to step up attention to developing biological methods of increasing soil fertility, theoretical and applied problems of the rational use of land and water resources, and the protection of the environment.

Major tasks lie ahead for scientists in the chemicalization of agriculture. It is very important to direct their efforts toward creating new, effective and economical fertilizers and other chemical resources and improved processes of producing them. They must focus on the development of new chemical and biological methods of fixing atmospheric nitrogen, the targeted synthesis of pesticides which are harmless to the environment, above all herbicides with given bioactive properties, pheromones, hormones (in particular prostaglandins), juvenile hormones and other hormonal preparations, effective fodder preservatives and stabilizers, and sophisticated methods of preserving agricultural products.

Further development must be carried out on research in molecular biology and genetic engineering and the creation of new biological methods of obtaining physiologically active compounds for various processes in agricultural production. Great significance is attached to new processes and the intensification of products of the microbiological industry, the search for new types of raw materials for the industrial extraction of protein of microbial origin, and the speediest development of the production of lysine, beta-carotene and other highly effective means of increasing animals' productivity. Attention must also be directed toward seeking effective methods of producing microbiological means of protecting plants from diseases.

An important task is to further develop the theoretical basis of preventing and combatting animal diseases and to improve the quality of livestock products.

Scientists in the sphere of mechanics, in close cooperation with biologists and selection workers, are called upon to expand the scale of research in creating new agricultural machine systems and new methods of designing machinery; substantially increasing the reliability and power and reducing the vibration and noise level of tractors, combines and other machines; and introducing the latest processes of surface alloying and laser, plasma and other methods of strengthening and protecting the surface of parts and units to combat wear and corrosion.

It is necessary to implement the speediest introduction of aerospace methods of monitoring the state of agricultural crop areas.

Great and crucial tasks must be resolved by scientists and social scientists in elaborating the pressing economic and social problems of rural areas and the specialization and concentration of agricultural production on the basis of interfarm and agro-industrial cooperation and the development of socialist competition.

The USSR Academy of Sciences General Assembly called on all scientists to pool their efforts and knowledge to resolve the tasks set and to make a worthy contribution to the implementation of the program outlined by the CPSU for the further development of agriculture, a program aimed at steadily improving the Soviet people's prosperity.

GEORGIAN FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE APPOINTED

LD090935Y Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 31 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Chronicle"]

[Text] The Georgian SSR Council of Ministers has appointed Comrade A. G. Kozmanishvili Georgian SSR first deputy minister of agriculture.

VENERA FLIGHTS YIELD MUCH INFORMATION ON ATMOSPHERE

LD050754Y Moscow TASS in English 0659 GMT 5 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 5, TASS--Carbon monoxide was for the first time discovered in Venusian atmosphere by a chromatographic method, says a science commentary published in PRAVDA. The commentary is devoted to the results of the flight of the Soviet Venera-11 and Venera-12 automatic stations. The newspaper points out in this connection that to study the chemical composition of the atmospheres of the planets of the solar system is one of the important scientific tasks in space research. This is why special apparatus, the small-size gas chromatograph "Sigma," in particular, was installed on board the stations for a more detailed analysis of the chemistry of the Venusian atmosphere. Noting the advantages of the apparatus, the newspaper writes in particular, that while conventional gas chromatographs weigh more than a metric centner, Sigma's weight is about ten kilograms.

Special attention had been devoted to ensuring a reliability of the analysis. It was essential to be absolutely sure that "terrestrial" substances from the descent-craft module or from its surface did not get into Venusian-atmosphere samples. This is why the chromatograph automatically performed a blank analysis, checking its working capacity and carrying out calibration by means of a control gas mixture.

Such a space-design gas chromatograph has been created for the first time in the world. By means of the Sigma, nine samples of Venusian atmosphere were taken along the line of descent.

The space experiment, the newspaper goes on, confirmed the previous data on the basic components of Venusian atmosphere--carbonic acid and nitrogen. Besides, argon was discovered, which is exceptionally important for the understanding of the planet's evolution. On the strength of the analyses carried out, a preliminary conclusion can be made as to presence of sulphides in Venusian atmosphere.

An exact quantitative analysis of the obtained data is to be carried out shortly. It will make a new contribution to our knowledge of the planets of the solar system, PRAVDA concludes.

FURTHER USE OF SALYUT SPACE STATION EXPLORED

LD031204Y Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] Ground control has begun regular checks of the onboard systems of the Salyut orbital station. The station has completed its program and experts are now exploring the possibility of its further use for cosmonauts' missions. The space lab was put into orbit 15 months ago. It is now flying on its own.

LENINGRAD UNIV. SYNTHESIZES THREE NEW MINERALS

LD050636Y Moscow TASS in English 0616 GMT 5 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Leningrad, January 5, TASS--Specialists of Leningrad University's institute of the earth's crust synthesized three compounds which have been hitherto unknown in mineralogy. The compounds will be christened after scientists determine their properties.

The newly synthesized minerals have been obtained as a result of simulation of processes occurring in the earth's depths. The apparatus created at the institute allows the simulation of conditions at various layers of the earth's crust down to a depth of 100 kilometres. A pressure rises up to 30,000 atmospheres, and temperature up to 1,000 degrees, centigrade, in the reaction vessel to where the substances-to-be-tested are placed. Apart from scientific interest, these experiments are of practical importance. Established during the experiments, for example, were conditions under which mica can be obtained, high-hardness crystals, mineral additives to technical oils synthesized, sepiolite--a natural-occurring mineral, converted into talc, and compounds with ferro-magnetic and piezo-electric properties created.

BRIEFS

RADIOPHOTO TRANSMISSION OF NEWSPAPERS--New newspaper reception points using the photo-telegraphic method have been handed over for use on the eve of 1979. Following the Khabarovsk example, transmission of photocopies of central publications from Moscow to Irkutsk via the Orbita system's communications satellites has begun. Cable and radio relay lines now link Moscow with 40 towns of the country. The transmission time for one page of a newspaper does not exceed 3 minutes, irrespective of meteorological conditions. Construction will start on such newspaper reception points in Tyumenskaya Oblast, Izhevsk, Astrakhan, Cheboksary and Yerevan. It is planned to transmit central publications to Krasnoyarsk via space communications channels. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD]

FLOATING POWER STATION--Today a state commission accepted the commissioning of the Severnoye Siyaniye floating power station. Electricity has already begun to flow along the 50-kilometer power transmission line to the Polyarnyy mining and concentrating combine. In the future the power station will supply the Mys Shmidta settlement and Ryrkaypiy Village with technological steam for heating residences and production facilities. [Magadan Domestic Service in Russian 0755 GMT 22 Dec 78 OW]

ARCTIC AIRPORT--A state commission has accepted the commissioning of the main complex of the Pevek Airport. The airport runways, built on the Arctic Ocean's shore, are designed to take TU-154 aircraft. The runways, a 20-kilometer electric power transmission line, and other projects were built by the Pevekstroy Construction and Installation Administration of the Arktikstroy Trust. For the first time in Arctic conditions sandy concrete rather than regular concrete was used to construct the runways. Its use was developed by the Arktikstroy Trust in cooperation with the Leningrad branch of the Aeroproyekt Trust in cooperation with the Leningrad branch of the Aeroproyekt Institute and the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Concrete and Reinforced Concrete. The Pevek Airport has the most modern radio-navigation equipment insuring the safety of takeoffs and landings in difficult polar conditions. Previously passengers from Pevek had to fly to Cherskiy and Chekurdakh airports on Yak-40 aircraft and then transfer to IL-18 aircraft. Now direct flights will link Pevek with Moscow and travel time to Moscow will be almost halved. [Magadan Domestic Service in Russian 0755 GMT 19 Dec 78 OW]